FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 DECEMBER 1983

## PLO Affairs

The first of the five Greek ships that are to evacuate Palestinian fighters loyal to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tripoli early on 20 December, Beirut radio announced. Earlier, in preparation for the evacuation, pro- and anti-'Arafat Palestinian forces in the city exchanged prisoners, the loyalists having held 40 people and the dissidents 24, the radio added, while Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan was informed that 'Arafat had agreed to hand his heavy weapons over to the Lebanese Government. Meanwhile, Israeli gunboats watched the evacuation preparations and the arrival of the Greek ships from their positions offshore without interfering, the radio reported.

In contacts initiated by the Greek Government on 19 December, Israel refused to give any clear-cut commitment that it would not harm the Greek ships taking part in the evacuation, Jerusalem television reported. Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi told Jerusalem radio that during his recent visit to Paris he informed French officials of Israel's displeasure at French and Greek plans to aid in 'Arafat's departure. Levi stated that French officials told him that they are demanding that 'Arafat "repudiate terrorism" in exchange for their assistance. In another report Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who was quoted by the radio, stated that the Greek and French governments have received 'Arafat's assurances that there will be no more terrorist attacks in their countries.

Previewing the situation after the evacuation, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir told the London-based *AL-MAJALLAH* that he will go to Jordan for further meetings of the Palestinian-Jordanian Committee and noted that "it is possible" Palestinian fighters may once again be stationed in that country and Iraq. In an interview with Kuwait's *AL-WATAN*, reported by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio, Al-Wazir predicted the PLO "will consider" calling a special session of the PNC in order to "resolve some organizational issues" and "define positions directly."

## Lebanon

Security — The IDF clashed with gunmen in Sidon after an attack on an Israeli patrol in the city caused casualties, Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 20 December. Meanwhile, the Israelis cut the coastal highway south of Sidon after an explosion near an Israeli position in the Tyre area, according to Beirut radio.

Earlier, Beirut radio reported that shooting occurred when the IDF roadblock at the Al-Awwali River Bridge stopped a French UNIFIL military convoy on 19 December. Israeli and UNIFIL officers then conducted negotiations in order to overcome the problem, the radio added.

Commenting on the 19 December Israeli air attack on targets in Bhamdun, Jerusalem radio said Israeli pilots hit two buildings housing Palestinian dissidents under the command of Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha. The raid was intended to warn the Druze to keep their promise to keep the Ash-Shuf free of "terrorists," the radio revealed. Meanwhile, another convoy of Christian refugees was evacuated from Dayr al-Qamar to Beirut without problems and if the evacuation process continues smoothly it will be completed by the weekend, according to the radio.

Damascus Meeting — Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed satisfaction with the "positive aspects" of the recent meeting of the Lebanese, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers in Damascus, "even though the Syrian position on the 17 May agreement has not changed," Beirut radio reported.

## Kuwait

A senior official cited by *AL-WATAN* stated that the issuance of visas for all Arab and other foreign nationals has been suspended indefinitely, adding that visas will be issued only to "dignitaries who are well known" to Kuwaiti officials, according to QNA. In another development, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, cited by KUNA, confirmed that a security court has been formed to try those accused of the 12 December bombings. The defendants' dossiers have been completed and will be passed to the public prosecutor's office.

Meanwhile, the Iranian Education and Training Ministry, in a statement reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, denounced the Kuwaiti Government's detention of the supervisor of Iranian schools in Kuwait and other Iranian school officials and called for their immediate release.

## Israel

Two people were wounded on 20 December when "booby-trapped hand grenades" exploded at the entrances of a mosque and convent in Al-'Ayzariyah, east of Jerusalem, according to Jerusalem radio. IDF Radio announced that an unidentifed person claimed responsibility on behalf of the "Terror Against Terror" organization.

## Iraq

Presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Baghdad where he was met by the chief of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department, INA reported.

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## 'Arafat, Palestinians Depart From Tripoli

### PLO Communiques

*JN191740 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1619 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] As the Syrian-Libyan siege of Tripoli continues, the Zionist enemy escalates its bestial aggression against the steadfast city it is besieging from the sea. Israeli gunboats last night and this morning shelled several quarters and areas in this steadfast city, particularly the port area. The military communiques issued by the Palestinian revolution forces general command stated that four Israeli vessels have since yesterday been attacking the city of Tripoli. These vessels opened artillery and heavy machine gun fire in the direction of the port, hitting one of the warehouses and setting it ablaze. The hostile Zionist shelling also hit the grain warehouse. The Palestinian military communiques added that our resistance engaged these vessels and managed to hit one of them, which was seen catching fire. The other vessels were forced to retreat to the open sea.

A Palestinian military communique issued this morning said that at dawn today, the Zionist enemy resumed its naval raids on the city of Tripoli. Enemy gunboats opened intensive artillery fire in the direction the city as of 0500. The shelling included the quarters of Al-Bihsas, Al-Mina', the Quarantine center, and the city's port. The shelling caused several fires in different areas, particularly in the port and its warehouses. The Palestinian communique stressed that our resistance repulsed the enemy, forcing it to retreat to the open sea. The exchange of fire is still continuing.

The latest Palestinian military communiques said: Following our communique this morning, the delayed-action bombs that enemy planes dropped at the port's entrance last night went off. One civilian ship was hit as a result of the explosions and later sank. The Israeli naval shelling also hit another ship and set it ablaze. The fire is still raging on the ship. This operation discloses the seriousness of the design drawn up by the Israeli military gang against the PLO's forces and militants. The ships entrusted to evacuate the Palestinian revolution's fighters from Tripoli were supposed to enter the port this morning, 19 December.

The Zionist warplanes are participating in the aggression against the city of Tripoli. The Zionist aggression began yesterday with two raids by enemy warplanes. World news agencies said that the Palestinian retaliation to the Zionist aggression was fierce.

### Evacuation Begins

*NC200744 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GM 20 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] The operation of transporting armed Palestinians from Tripoli to Greek ships is taking place now within the framework of their evacuation from the city.

Since 0600 today, French warplanes have been providing air cover for the operation while 10 French naval units are accompanying the French aircraft carrier *Clemenceau*, which approached the Tripoli coast this morning. Five French warships will accompany the Greek ships that will be taking the Palestinians to Tunisia, Algeria, and North Yemen.

Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces, is supervising the movement of the Palestinians from the land to the ships. Hisham as-Sha'ar has also gone to Tripoli to represent the prime minister in bidding farewell to 'Arafat.

At 0900 today warplanes flew outside Lebanese territorial waters some 40 miles from the coast.

### Details of Evacuation

*NC200908 Paris AFP in English 0856 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 20 (AFP) — Yasir 'Arafat and his men began embarking on a Greek ferry flying the United Nations flag at 0815 GMT. [Words indistinct] 4,000 Palestinian combatants loyal to the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman out of this North Lebanese port, escorted by French naval vessels.

One of the fighters assembled on the quay told AFP that they had each received a list of possessions they were authorized to take with them. This included personal weapons.

Meanwhile PLO vehicles equipped with anti-aircraft guns drove round the city, and uniformed Palestinian military police and Lebanese gendarmes supervised the assembly of the soldiers.

Palestinian women and children, wrapped up warm in the biting cold, were also preparing to leave. Many of the children carried portraits of Mr. 'Arafat, whose headquarters in the neighbourhood of Az-Zahiriyah was one of the five assembly points.

Along the coastal road to the north of the town, pro-'Arafat PLO check-points were still being manned in case of a last-minute attack by dissident forces besieging the town.

As the city woke up, crowds could be seen assembling near the port to observe the departure of the PLO fighters.

A few minutes after the first ferry docked, a second, the Naxos, pulled in and a first truck drove on, carrying about 20 Palestinians sitting on their suitcases.

A third ferry, the *Santorini*, was about to dock.

The truck flew a Palestinian flag and the fighters made the victory sign as they drove onto the ferry. They carried photos of Mr. 'Arafat.

Mr. 'Arafat's personal vehicle, containing his briefcase and personal possessions, could be seen near a heavily-guarded house in the port area in which he spent the night.

(In Jerusalem, Israeli Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor told AFP the Israeli government had "no comment" to make about the arrival of the Greek ships, but that it "still reserved the possibility to intervene at any time and in any place against terrorism.")

The pro-'Arafat PLO fighters, who have been besieged here by Syrian-supported PLO dissidents since last month, began converging on five assembly points in the city while most of Tripoli still slept.

**Israeli Gunboats Watch Evacuation**

*NC200822 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] According to the latest information which we broadcast in a news supplement 20 minutes ago, a Greek ship has entered Tripoli port to transport the fighters. The other ships are anchored at a distance of approximately 5 kilometers from the port. Israeli gunboats are on the high seas watching the situation; however, they have not interfered militarily, as was the case yesterday.

**French Planes Fired On**

*NC200638 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0622 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] We have just received a report indicating that antiaircraft fire was opened at French planes which overflew Tripoli in order to protect the evacuation of the Palestinians. It appears that the armed Palestinians were confused about the planes and at first thought they were Israeli; however, the ground fire soon stopped when the identity of the planes became clear.

**Planes Said Israeli, Not French**

*NC201026 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] The pro-'Arafat Palestinian fighters began boarding the five Greek ships anchored in Tripoli port at 1100 today. The ships are flying the UN, Lebanese, and Greek flags. Several French warships were seen directly near the port.

Following the arrival of the Greek fleet, Greek and French officials said Israeli Mirage warplanes flew over Tripoli this morning but carried out no attacks.

The preliminary reports indicated that the planes which flew over the area were French carrying out observation and reconnaissance mission. However, French embassy officials and officers of the French contingent with the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut met in Tripoli with the Greek ambassador later and contacted the aircraft carrier *Clemenceau* to inquire about these planes. They were told that they are Israeli Mirage planes and not French planes.

**'Arafat Leaves Lebanon**

*NC201310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1305 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Dear listeners: Our representative in the north has just informed us that Yasir 'Arafat left Tripoli a short while ago aboard the second ship which sailed from the northern quay at 1445. The destination of this ship is not yet known.

**Heavy Weapons Handed Over**

*NC200843 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Our radio correspondent reported that the Palestinians have handed over about 95 percent of their heavy weapons, including rocket launchers and antiaircraft guns, to the Islamic Unification Movement. However, the Lebanese security authorities have received some light-caliber weapons and RPG's, the telescopes of which have been removed.

## Baghdad PLO Radio on Call for 'Arafat Resignation

*JN191735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1619 GMT 9 Dec 83*

[Text] The traitor dissidents issued a statement in Damascus yesterday calling for Yasir 'Arafat's resignation from all his positions. It is recalled that the Syrian regime had earlier called for 'Arafat's resignation, particularly when ferocious battles were still raging in northern Lebanon between the Syrian and Libyan forces on the one hand and the Palestinian forces on the other. Those battles were intended to eliminate Palestinian legitimacy by means of guns.

## AL-FAJR Poll Indicates Support For 'Arafat

*JN191122 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 10 Dec 83 p 1*

[Text] The majority of the Palestinian masses in the occupied Arab territories affirmed their support for Yasir 'Arafat's continued chairmanship of the PLO Executive Committee and his political line, while 72.09 percent rejected establishing a Palestinian government-in-exile. This was the result of a popular poll *AL-FAJR* presented on its front page on 25 and 29 November in which 1,111 citizens from various cities, villages, and refugee camps took part. The following are the results:

1. On support for Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to continue as PLO Executive Committee Chairman, 1,068 — that is 96.12 percent — said yes; and 43 — 3.87 percent — said no.

2. On commander leader Yasir 'Arafat's continued political course, 952 — 85.68 percent — said yes; and 159 — 14.31 percent — said no.

3. On establishing a Palestinian government-in-exile, 274 — 24.66 percent — said yes; and 801 — 72.09 percent — said no. Thirty-six, that is 3.24 percent, did not answer.

### Aden VOP Comments on Fatah Differences

*GF070630 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 6 Dec 83*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It is natural for a controversy to occur on the revolution's issues. It is also common for discussion to take place inside the revolution on new issues and other issues which are far from the people's central goals. This is all required at all stages of the national march of the Palestinian people because unanimity on national issues does not mean unanimity on methods of struggle or stands on the best formulas for each stage or on external alliances and relationships.

This is why demands are not an issue that causes worry, even if the way to raise such demands is clamorous. If all this is natural in any national march of a certain people, it is also very common for the Palestinian people's march, which has its own characteristics regarding the Palestinian revolution's internal structure and the cultural and social structure of the Palestinian people. This is why popular Palestinian national circles have not been worried about demanded reforms in the first stage. Indeed, what was occupying the people and revolution circles is how genuine and independent these demands were and how nationally honest they were. More important is the consciousness of those who make these demands of the special nature of the Palestinian revolution, a nature which reveals extreme awareness of what internal differences will yield to those lurking to strike at the revolution and will yield in internal destruction by circles that have been dreaming for years of an abandonment of the Palestinian revolution because the revolution contradicts their policies and is continuously embarrassing them on the national and pan-Arab levels.

We can say frankly that many Palestinian circles have been convinced of the need to make an overall review after the Beirut battle and have viewed the so-called demands for reforms as a positive phenomenon. But all these circles are worried about the ability of those who make these demands in the internal debate and in their independent moves and the ability of the adversaries and enemies of the Palestinian national struggle to benefit from these moves.

Developments confirm the legitimacy of these reservations and worries. They also confirm the fact that the legitimacy of the goals does not justify differences and conflict at any time or anywhere and also that major national causes are not measured by personal considerations, and that the suffering of any struggle, wherever it might be, is a basic part of its efforts if it does not make mistakes in major things.

The enemies of reform are those who boycotted the Fatah Central Council despite the fact that it met in the most appropriate place. They are those who shelled the camps and exercised the role of hated occupier whose practices the masses reject. After all this, there is no doubt about the nature of the adversary agents and their objectives since 1976. The battle our people is waging is for independent Palestinian decisionmaking, which is the deadliest Palestinian weapon against the enemies and whose efficiency is no longer confined to a geographical location. An inch of land without (?pressures or threats) is the measure and thousands of kilometers of land without strength is nothing. Decisive Palestinian popular loyalty is [word indistinct] and the will of the revolution and the people are most favorable. A look at Tripoli and around it is sufficient. Palestine is again under siege. Those who are laying the siege on behalf of the Zionist enemy are those who are being condemned, isolated and [word indistinct].

### PLO's Khalil al-Wazir on Post-Beirut Struggle

*GF191718 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Dec (WAKH) — A high ranking Palestinian official was quoted here Monday as saying the Palestinian revolution will rebuild its forces after the departure of its men from Tripoli, and will never abandon the armed struggle.

In an interview with *AL-WATAN*, deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces Khalil al-Wazir, codenamed Abu Jihad, pointed out that any talk on the possibility of abandoning the armed struggle is mere illusion that will never be realized.

Our existence as a revolution is decided by the continuation of our armed struggle, Abu Jihad affirmed while supervising the process of the Palestinian forces departure from Tripoli.

He indicated that among the first steps to be taken when the present crisis in Tripoli is over is to ponder the possibility of holding a special session of the Palestine National Council with a view to solving some organizational problems on the Palestinian level, deciding on stances related to the crisis of some parties to it, and studying factors that influenced the battle in Tripoli and in particular the Syrian position throughout.

On the political level, Abu Jihad ruled out the possibility of any alteration on the public stand taken by the PLO towards the Reagan initiative for peace in the Middle East. We believe we are presently paying the price of our open and explicit view of this initiative, he said.

### UAE Paper Interviews PFLP's George Habash

*GF191417 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 19 Dec 83 p 21*

[Interview with George Habash, PFLP secretary general, by *AL-KHALIJ correspondent in Damascus Jum'ah al-Lami — no* date given]

[Excerpts] *AL-KHALIJ*: After the Palestinian resistance's exit from Beirut and after Fatah's organizational situation reached its current stage, and fighting broke out in Tripoli and Al-Biqa', Arab and Palestinian citizens at times became indignant and at times nonchalant and frustrated. Do you believe that what has happened reflects shortcomings only in the PLO's political leadership or that some of these shortcomings are in the leftist leaders?

George Habash: The main reasons for the current short-

comings in Fatah and in the PLO are because of the influential forces in the leadership of Fatah and the PLO. Having defined the area of responsibility, we cannot absolve other Palestinian factions of some of the responsibility. Why do I say so? Because these leaders, particularly after the Beirut battle, adopted a political policy that cannot adequately be described as wrong; this policy caused the other Palestinian factions to ask such questions as: Will the Palestinian revolution continue as an anti-imperialist force in its armed struggle until the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights are attained, or has the Beirut blow caused the leadership to review the overall political policy that Fatah adopted and which the PLO presented in its major documents in the PNC and the resolutions of the various PNC sessions?

A few days ago, I read that PLO Executive Committee member Jamal as-Surani proposed to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] in Dhaka that Egypt be allowed back in the ICO. What does this mean? This blatant disregard of the national line that is stipulated by the PLO's institutions and the fact that all PLO's political affairs are guided on an individual basis is no longer tolerated in the Palestinian arena. Things have gone too far. Any faction that respects itself will not agree to things in the PLO remaining as they were. This is the reason behind the crisis and we would be wrong to deny that this policy and individual friendships are the reasons behind the crisis that recently exploded in the Palestinian arena.

The responsibility of the other factions is that some of them were involved in the internal fighting to settle the existing differences in Fatah and the PLO. Experience has proved that this policy is wrong and its consequences are very destructive on various Palestinian, Arab, and international levels and among the masses.

*AL-KHALIJ*: Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] have affirmed that the next PNC meeting will isolate any faction or any leader that has not taken sides with them and that has been an instrument of Syria and Libya. What is your view on this issue?

George Habash: I believe that Brother 'Arafat would be making a big mistake to call for convening the PNC on the bases you mentioned in your question because the results would be very clear, that is, the division of the PLO. Abu 'Ammar would bear the responsibility for this division, and not only this, such a step would be regarded as an extreme challenge to the Syrian regime, which, as everyone knows, confronts the imperialist assault by power. To compensate for this current division in policy on the Palestinian level, and the harmful policy on the Arab level, we propose the following:

Immediately after the departure of the fighters from Tripoli the Palestinian leadership should convene as the executive committee and the general secretaries are used to, without any exclusion and hold a responsible Palestinian dialogue from which no party would be excluded. Its slogan should be: "Despite all that happened, we should unite and correct our march." This is the challenge that the Palestinian revolution is currently facing.

*AL-KHALIJ*: What if 'Arafat rejects this?

George Habash: Then he will bear throughout history the responsibility for all the destructive results of this divisive and harmful step.

*AL-KHALIJ*: The PLO has stopped any dialogue with Syria and with any party from the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. How would you describe a program that can return things to normal, and have you played a personal role in affirming this goal?

George Habash: We affirm the importance of the alliance with Syria as much as we affirm the importance of national unity at this stage. We do not say this only to reply to this question. Immediately after departing Beirut, the PFLP instituted two concurrent slogans: the revolution's unity and cohesion with Syria. But what is taking place in Fatah is contrary to this. Whoever wants the revolution to continue should look for a Palestinian unity that is in fusion with Syria. That is why I said in reply to your previous question that if the brothers in the Fatah Central Committee hold a PNC session quickly, they will be challenging Syria. This would havethe following two results: The PLO's division instead of unity and the weakening of the alliance with Syria instead of strengthening it. This is why I cannot support a political mistake which is more dangerous and destructive for the Palestinian arena because whoever follows it will put the Palestinian revolution in the position of a counter-revolution whether he wants or not. What does the division of the Palestinian arena mean, in addition to a battle with Syria? This means that we really serve the imperialist goals at this moment, whether regarding the Palestinian revolution or strengthening the alliance with Syria.

We hope that these statements are a result of the reaction witnessed by the Fatah leadership as a result of its relations with Syria, and we hope that they are temporary and that everyone returns to the language of sense and wisdom. If, God forbid, these lines are crystalized stubbornly and in practice, then we really should say that the dangerous responsibility before the masses and history is theirs.

## Released PLO Detainees Arrive in Amman 19 Dec

*JN200717 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Dec 83 p 1*

[By Lamis K. Anduni, special to the *JORDAN TIMES*]

[Text] Amman — A total of 43 Palestinians released by the Israeli authorities in an exchange last month of prisoners between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation arrived Monday in Amman from Algeria.

Hani al-Hasan, a senior political advisor to PLO Chairman 'Arafat, who received the freed detainees at the Queen Alia International Airport; said that the "release of the Palestinian heroes proves that the PLO maintains a strong political influence despite all conspiracies against it."

The Palestinian official said that the "success of the prisoner exchange operation also indicates that Mr 'Arafat still holds the initiative of the Palestinian arena."

"Moreover," Mr al-Hasan said "despite the Israeli intransigence and determination not to recognise the PLO, it was forced to negotiate with the organisation on the exchange."

Commenting on the fact that Israel has withheld a number of Palestinians who were supposed to have been freed under the exchange deal, Mr. al-Hasan said the PLO "still has cards in its hands," in an apparent reference to the two Israeli soldiers held by the radical faction of the PLO, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC)

Mr al-Hasan said France which played a major role in negotiations prior to the exchange "was deceived" by the Israelis.

Referring to the United Nations' approval to fly its flag on Greek ships which would evacuate Palestinian fighters from Tripoli, north Lebanon. Mr al-Hasan said that it reflects the international recognition of the legitimacy of the PLO leadership.

The freed Palestinians' arrival in Amman signifies "The deep-rooted Palestinian-Jordanian relations which no conspiracy can ever sway." Mr al-Hasan added.

**'Arafat Denounces Kuwait Explosions**

*GF191722 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1250 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Dec (WAKH) -- PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has announced the support of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO for Kuwait against any threat it might face. KUNA has cited 'Arafat as saying that he conveyed this stand during a telephone conversation with Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah recently in which he denounced intentions to harm Kuwait's security and stability through the recent explosions.

'Arafat said that after his visit to Tunis he will make a tour that will include Algeria, Jordan, and countries in the Arab Gulf.

## OMAN

### U.S. Magazine Interview of Sultan Qabus Reported

*GF172032 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] His Majesty Sultan Qabus gave an important and comprehensive interview to U.S. magazine *DEFENSE AND DIPLOMACY* in which he talked about a number of Arab, regional, and international issues.

Answering an question about expatriate manpower in the Sultanate of Oman and whether this manpower will affect internal security, his majesty said: The expatriates who are present among us make huge contributions in the development of our country. They have absolutely no affect on our internal security. We, in the first place, carefully select the laborers who work with us, and in the second place, there are no factors that lead to jeopardizing the internal stability in Oman.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, which has entered its third year and caused serious losses in lives and property, and on means to solve this dispute, his majesty said: This is a detested war which is taking place between two Muslim countries. There is nothing that would please us more than ensuring a quick end to this war. This war has resulted in a heavy loss of lives and caused the destruction of the economies of the peoples of the two countries. On top of all that, this war has created a state of unrest in our region, and we now cannot see any moves to solve this dispute. Thus we believe that only negotiations between the two sides will lead to a lasting and acceptable solution.

Answering a question on the events that took place recently within the PLO, his majesty said: As we know, the sultanate strongly supports the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their homeland. The Sultanate also strongly works to ensure international support for the rights and the dignity of these people. We also believe that the suffering of the Palestinian people during these many years was the result of supression of human conscience. As we have announced repeatedly, we find it necessary to look carefuly into matters that will ensure a peaceful solution of this issue, so that it will be a honorable solution that guarantees the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Answering a question on the Camp David accord and whether it is still alive or whether there is a need for new initiatives, his majesty said: The Camp David accord has been and still is the only means that has achieved a constructive step in the direction of reaching a peaceful solution to the Middle East issue. We believe that it is necessary to regard the Camp David accord as alive, and that every effort designed to attain further progress should be based on it. Undoubtedly, Israeli intransigence has obstructed any tangible progress, so we should not allow the continuation of this intransigence.

Answering a question on the quantity of the oil reserves in Oman and the planning for the Omani economy when oil runs out, his majesty said: When I assumed responsibility of this country in 1970, I was determined to adopt measures to diversify the country's economy so as to end dependency on oil. We thank the Almighty for the other natural resources that can help us attain our desired goals. Today, we are moving in the direction of attaining self-sufficiency in agriculture, and we are exporting copper products of good quality. We have attained self-sufficiency in the field of fisheries and fish products, we are on the verge of exporting these products. Our steps are in the direction of developing other sources such as natural gas, chrome, cement, asbestos, and iron, and probably charcoal. We do all this for the benefit of our people. At the same time, the situation of our oil reserves is very satisfactory, since there have been new discoveries of high quality. So this commodity will be available in our country for many years to come. Our oil production includes refining it at the refinery which is located at the Gulf of Oman. We then export it, thus our oil exports will not be affected by conditions that could result from the Iraqi-Iranian war and the threat posed to regional stability as a result of this war.

On international navigation of the Strait of Hormuz, which is part of Oman's territorial waters, the measures undertaken by Oman to protect this vital waterway, and the aid which Oman gets from the Western countries in return for this protection, his majesty said: The truth is that the main passage through the Strait of Hormuz is part of Oman's territorial waters. Therefore, we shoulder our responsibilities and exert our utmost to ensure the peaceful passage of international navigation. But in light of the unstable and grave situation in the Gulf, we believe that the Gulf countries are concerned about this. The GCC can play a role in ensuring the safety of international navigation. We also believe that the Western countries have to play a role since they have a vital interest in ensuring freedom of navigation. This role can be summed up in providing necessary technical equipment which will help ensure safety of international navigation through the Strait of Hormuz.

On his views with regard to relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY and whether the PFLO constitutes a threat to Oman, his majesty said: The agreement which was signed between the sultanate and the PDRY in October 1982 was the first step in the direction of normalizing relations between our two countries after the severing of ties that lasted for many years. This normalization is based on the principle which Oman called for adherence to for a long time, that is noninterference in each other's internal affairs. So far the PDRY has demonstrated acommitment to this agreement and it is natural that we are watching the situation. As for the so-called the PFLO, it remained for many years a meaningless facade of the communist propaganda. It constitutes no threats to the sultanate.

Answering a question on the announcement made by his majesty on the Sultanate's commitment to the policy of neutrality with regard to the dispute between the superpowers and the affect of this on Soviet involvement in the region, which takes place through its agents, the sultan said: Our goal, through our coordination with our brothers in the GCC, is to attain the utmost point of depending on ourselves in all the fields so that our region averts any involvement in the dispute between the superpowers. We are happy that we, together with our brothers, have achieved results toward attaining this goal. We are confident that our continuous cooperation will promote the security and prosperity of our peoples. As for the Soviets flagrant expansionist plans, it is insanity to turn a blind eye to what they are doing. It is enough

to look at the world around us to know the genuine nature of this threat. Therefore, we deem it essential that Oman develop its relations with its friends in the world in order to protect itself from these ambitions. I and my people have some practical experience with the implications of such a threat to a small and sovereign country. At any rate, we will not allow ourselves to become victims of this threat.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### Riyadh on U.S., Israeli Air Strikes Against Syria

*LD191409 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Analysis by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Hazza']

[Excerpts] At a time when the Lebanese Government is working hard to contain the crisis afflicting the country and at a time when efforts are being exerted to create a favorable climate for the resumption of the national Lebanese dialogue, foreign planes intensified their flights in the Lebanese skies and their bombardment of the Syrian positions in Lebanon.

These military operations, both American and Israeli, are not the first. American planes have in the past also carried out flights and dealt strikes against the Syrian positions in Lebanon, which prompted the Syrians to retaliate and to shoot down three American planes.

The fact, however, is that these repeated military operations in Lebanon at this critical time when efforts are being exerted to save it portend further a escalation of military operations in Lebanon and could drive the Lebanese problem onto a totally different course unlike the course it is following now, and could open the door to other foreign interventions in the region. Should this take place, matters will become worse, and consequently all hopes for a comprehensive settlement of the Lebenese crisis will fade.

The American and Israeli air strikes in Lebanon coincide with the exertion of good offices for the resumption of the national dialogue and the safeguarding of the cease-fire.

This will, at best, delay the reconciliation process and preoccupy the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese citizens with new developments which will not in the end bring any good to Lebanon but will lead to untold consequences.

## UAE

### AL-BAYAN on Reagan's Statement on Israel

*GF200720 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* has warned against the gravity of the statement made by the U.S. President in which he stressed his commitment — and the commitment of presidents who will succeed him in the White House — and understanding of Israel's increasing security needs and the necessity of defining the various forms of U.S. aid to Israel to meet these needs.

*AL-BAYAN* termed this as being a novel challenge to Arab interests, feelings, and security. The paper said: The danger of Reagan's commitment to Israel will be very serious since it emanates from the U.S. President himself; in other words, this will be a policy which each succeeding U.S. president must continue. The paper then inquired about what more is required to convince us that there is no logical basis for the policy of totally counting on the possibility of changing the U.S. position so as to make it neutral or less antagonistic to the Arabs with regard to their dispute with Israel.

The paper referred to the United States counting on Israel to play the role of a policeman against the Arab countries — even against those countries that Washington regards as being its friends. The paper went on to say: The Reagan commitment, in addition to the strategic agreement with Israel, make the United States a direct partner in the step of expanding the so-called Israeli security strip.

## Mubarak on PLO, U.S.-Israel Pact, Other Topics

*NC192156 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has cautioned that the fragmentation currently prevailing in the Arab countries will benefit only the Arab nation's enemies and those lying in wait on all sides. President Mubarak reaffirmed that Egypt will not delay in supporting the Arab countries whatever the circumstances despite the severance of Arab relations. He also stressed that Egypt's support for Arab issues is a principled stand governed by the close bonds and ties linking Egypt with the Arab countries.

This was contained in an interview President Mubarak gave to Qatari television which was aired this evening and transmitted by QNA tonight. In the interview, in which Mubarak dealt with a number of Arab issues, he asserted that what has happened in Lebanon and the differences among the Palestinian groups resulted from the slowness in solving the Palestinian issue, which is considered to be the crux of the conflict in the Middle East.

President Mubarak called on PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to start a dialogue with King Husayn to coordinate between themselves so that talks can begin to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue.

Regarding the Gulf war, Mubarak again called on Iraq and Iran to sit together at the negotiating table and solve the issue. He pointed out that what is going on between Iraq and Iran is a loss for both countries. He hoped that the nonaligned countries would make an initiative to end the Iraq-Iran war and stop the bloodshed, which drains the resources of both countries.

Asked about his evaluation of the military strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, Mubarak said that this cooperation is not new; it is an old issue that was not born 1 or 2 weeks ago. Pointing to the special relations linking the United States and Israel, Mubarak said that he cannot possibly ask the Americans to get rid of [at-takhallus] these relations, but can only ask them not to take sides with Israel at the expense of other parties in the area in the peace process. He said that the Americans affirmed to him after the announcement of the cooperation agreement with Israel that there is no change in their plan aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East. He pointed out that the explanations made by the Americans in this respect are considered to be convincing to some extent at least for the time being.

Asked about Egyptian-Israeli relations, President Mubarak said that Egypt deals with Israel as it deals with any other country, but it is not considered a country that should receive preferential treatment. He pointed out that after the signing of the peace treaty with Israel, diplomatic representation was exchanged with it and that Israel had an embassador in Egypt. However, if Israel does things that do not agree with Egypt's policy in the area, Egypt will reject this and differences will arise. He pointed to Israel's invasion of Lebanon and said that Egypt had advised the Israelis and the Americans that the invasion would be a catastrophe and would lead to a deterioration of the situation in the area. Both sides, however, did not respond. He further said that Egypt withdrew its ambassador from Israel following the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Egypt refuses to return its ambassador to Israel under any pressure. He again made it clear that Egypt will return its ambassador to Israel if the Israeli forces withdraw from Lebanon, if Israel honors its pledges that it signed on 25 April 1982 regarding Tabah and starts to solve the Tabah problem according to the agreement. There is also the need for prompt moves to solve the Palestinian issue. Mubarak pointed out that if these things are accomplished, Egypt will then return its ambassador to Israel.

Asked about his views on the way of returning life to normal in Lebanon, President Mubarak said that in order to achieve this our brothers in Lebanon, and all the Lebanese parties, must coordinate to reach a reconciliation and unify their position in order to build an independent Lebanon that can face up to any incursion against Lebanon's interests.

Asked about the failure to resume diplomatic representation between Egypt and the Arab countries at a time when there are direct and indirect contacts with a number of Arab countries, Mubarak said that there are indeed direct and indirect contacts with the Arab countries because of friendly relations between him and a number of Arab kings and presidents. Referring to the issue of diplomatic representation, Mubarak said that it is up to the Arab countries. The issue is in their hands.

Asked about Soviet moves in the area, President Mubarak said that Egypt does not take notice of Soviet or non-Soviet moves. What is required is only for the Arabs to meet together to heal the rifts, because divisions increase the problems. In this respect, he pointed out that this dissension does not serve, but weakens the Arabs, and ultimately will lead the Arabs to lose their will. He affirmed that the best means to defend the Arab nation and to safeguard it against any moves in the area is Arab agreement on one strategy that serves the Arab interests.

President Mubarak began his interview by extending greetings in his name and on behalf of the Egyptian people to the Qatari people and Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani.

## People's Assembly Approves Foreign Policy Report

*NC191532 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) — The People's Assembly today approved the report submitted by Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, regarding the statement delivered by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, before the joint meeting of the Foreign Relations, Arab Affairs, Defense, and National Security committees. The statement by 'Ali touched on the Arab and international situation.

In their discussion of the Foreign Relations Committee report, the assembly members denounced Israel's intransigence and the illegal measures it is adopting in the occupied Arab territories. The report noted that the Foreign Relations Committee views with concern the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement, which has upset the balance in the area. The agreement might negatively affect the peace process and constitute a new obstacle to the achievement of peace, particularly because it has come at

a time when the Israeli stand toward peace is marked by intransigence and inflexibility.

The committee also expressed deep concern over the deteriorating situation in the Middle East and the increasing acts of terrorism and violence, which reflect the failure to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict to this day. The committee expressed the belief that any agreements that aim at aligning the superpowers with one of the parties to the conflict in the area will neither serve the interest of peace nor the interest of the people in the area.

In its report the committee noted that Israel is attempting to exploit the crisis atmosphere in the Arab area and that therefore it is necessary to quickly confront the plan aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause. The report affirmed the importance of full Arab understanding, coordination, and unity of action, which are vital for dealing with fateful and crucial issues.

The committee denounced the Israeli settlement policy and called on it to halt all illegal practices in the occupied territory. The committee also asked the world community to confront this design, indicating that the events in Lebanon must not divert attention away from the Palestinian people's issue, which is the crux of the Middle East conflict.

The committee expressed concern over the continuation of the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran. It expressed an appreciation for Iraq's stand toward the war and its response to the international resolutions issued in this respect. The committee appealed to the fraternal Iranian people to resort to logic and reason and respond to the calls for peace.

The committee expressed deep concern over the recent explosions in fraternal Kuwait and denounced all acts of terrorism and violence in the area.

The committee expressed support for the legitimate Palestinian cause represented by the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat and denounced all attempts aimed at striking at or liquidating this legitimacy.

Finally, the committee praised the clear Egyptian political line which supports the Arab issue in all international lobbies.

In their discussion of the report, the members expressed support for the wise foreign policy of President Husni Mubarak, as well as an appreciation of the active role played by Egyptian diplomacy in implementing this policy. The members affirmed that Egypt will continue to support Arab issues, and especially the Palestinian issue.

The People's Assembly then heard Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din's comment on the Foreign Relations Committee's report and the members' deliberations in this regard. He referred to the deteriorating situation in the Arab area resulting from its divisions into camps and axes at a fateful time when it should have faced events as one force for the sake of the Arab nation's history and future. He added: The divisions among the Palestinian people in the past months are a cause of pain and regret. Fighting with bullets and guns has replaced democratic dialogue between them and has resulted in hundreds of casualties in northern Lebanon. The prime minister explained that had the Arab nation maintained a unity of its ranks, and had the Palestinian brothers not engaged in fighting, the Arab nation would not be in the state it finds itself in now.

The prime minister said that the Lebanese people are paying the price of the civil war that began in 1975 and also of the conflicts between the Palestinian groups — the conflicts which resulted from the regional and international disputes that were instigated by Syria and Libya and have been harmful to the Arab nation.

In his comment before the People's Assembly, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din emphasized Egypt's firm stand of constant support for the Palestinian cause since 1948. He added: We do not want to polarize any of the Palestinian groups as others are doing. We support the legitimate Palestinian leadership which has affirmed that Egypt is a haven for the Palestinian cause. However, we will not receive any of the Palestinians leaving Lebanon because this will lead to a weakening [tafrigh] of the Palestinian issue. We will receive only wounded Palestinians for treatment.

The prime minister affirmed Egypt's adherence to the policy of a comprehensive and just peace.

In his comment the prime minister pointed out that U.S. President Ronald Reagan, in his reply to Egypt's questions on the latest strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel, emphasized that it will not affect relations between Egypt and the United States and will also not affect the peace process.

At the end of his comments Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din addressed thanks to the opposition and independents who approved the report and supported the Egyptian policy because it indicated their support for the national interest and strategic matters since agreements and disagreements are ultimately decided by Egypt's interests.

### Paper Says U.S. To Redress Balance With Egypt

*PM192053 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 17 Dec 83 p 1*

[Zaghlul as-Sayyid report: "United States Soon To Take Important Step Toward Egypt"]

[Text] London — Western diplomatic sources in London expect the United States to take an important step toward Egypt shortly in order to restore the balance of power in the area following the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement. These quarters say that the Western governments fully support such a step in order to counterbalance the strategic cooperation agreement, which President Husni Mubarak said will be a disaster if it is true.

These quarters say that the U.S. step toward Egypt will take place very shortly.

## SFRY Official Comments on Talks With Mubarak

*NC191358 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah this morning. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, also attended the meeting.

Following the meeting, the Yugoslav federal secretary said that talks had centered on the situation in the Middle East, which is witnessing increasing tension. He said that the need exists for new and bold steps to find a just and peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict, and all the more so now because of the growing tension here. There is a major confrontation between the two superpowers because of their plans to deploy new types of missiles in Europe and the suspension of the Geneva talks. This makes it all the more imperative to find new ways to submit fresh proposals and ideas for a just and peaceful solution of the Middle East problem.

The Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs added that the Yugoslav president and officials are looking forward to further efforts to consolidate the existing cooperation between Egypt and Yugoslavia in all fields, to exchange views on urgent international problems, especially the Middle East problem, and to exchange cultural and scientific expertise.

In answer to a question on what future steps the Palestinians must take following the role Yugoslavia played in resolving the inter-Palestinian conflict and in evacuating the fighters in Tripoli, he said they must meet like brothers and engage in a democratic dialogue to find peaceful ways for resolving their differences and serve the just Palestinian cause.

Asked about the date of the Yugoslav president's visit to Egypt, he said there is an official invitation from President Mubarak to the Yugoslav president to visit Egypt. It is hoped this visit will take place soon.

Dr Butrus Ghali said the talks between Egypt and Yugoslavia were positive and would continue at the ministerial level at the Foreign Ministry. He said the purpose of these talks is to achieve further cooperation between the two countries.

## Commentator Predicts PLO Will Surmount 'Ordeal'

*NC190947 Cairo Palestine Radio in Arabic 0630 GMT 19 Dec 83*

["Palestinian Popular Talk" by Mazin ash-Shawwa]

[Excerpts] Those who think the second exodus of the Palestinian revolutionary forces from Lebanon signifies the end of the Palestinian revolution or the PLO's liquidation are mistaken. Notwithstanding our admission that this exodus strips the Palestinian revolution of a primary and advanced support base, we view this situation as a preliminary warning that precedes stronger and broader steps. The ordeal which the Palestinian revolution is now experiencing is not its first. The ordeals and traumas to which the Palestinian revolution is subject have a direct impact on the march of the Palestinian armed struggle and acts of resistance. Nonetheless, the Palestinian revolution has made achievements and realized gains in the international arena. There is no way to deny or belittle these achievements and gains, the least of which is the PLO's success in wresting world recognition of its legitimacy and its role of sole representative of the Palestinian people.

We have said the Palestinian forces' exodus from Tripoli represents a preliminary step that will be followed by broader and stronger steps. This is because the current ordeal requires that the Palestinian revolution take time for sincere soul-searching in the course of which stances can be reconsidered, calculations scrutinized and recalculated, positive and negative actions assessed, and mistakes rectified in order to map out a strategy for the moves to be made in the upcoming phase and to base this stragegy on a clear-cut policy line.

The Palestinian people have patiently endured their sufferings and waged a protracted and bitter struggle to prove their existence, stress their rights, and wrest recognition of their identity and entity from the international community. Therefore, it is illogical for those people to concede their rights in the wake of a struggle that has lasted well over 70 years. Furthermore, it is unimaginable that the Palestinian people would permit the destruction of the gains and achievements they have made following 40 years of destitution, frustration, and suffering in which tens of thousands of their best sons and brothers have fallen for the sake of those gains and achievements.

News reports from the occupied territories affirm that the unarmed Palestinians are continuing their demonstrations against the occupation by pelting Israeli military vehicles and patrols with stones in clear defiance of the occupation forces that are armed to the teeth with the most modern weapons and vehicles, and through their confrontation of forces that mercilessly continue to practice acts of tyranny, coercion, and persecution. News agency reports also tell of acts of resistance against the Israeli forces and of successive attacks launched against mobile Israeli forces or against observation posts and logistical centers — despite the Palestinian command's preoccupation with the problem generated by the dissension and mutiny. All of this corraborates the Palestinian people's solidarity and determination to strengthen their presence to recover their legitimate rights.

Finally, we assert that the hostile forces have failed to bring the Palestinian people to their knees or force them to accept a fait accompli. Neither have shocks and ordeals nor a long expatriation and harsh life succeded in doing away with the Palestinian people in the host communities. These very people are capable of surmounting this ordeal and — God willing — of emerging from it with an even stronger adherence to their rights and a firmer determination to recover them.

Because we have not yet achieved a just solution, our cause continues to exist.

### Kamal ad-Din Husayn Defends Arab Contacts

*PM191632 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 14 Dec 83 p 4*

[Unattributed report: "Kamal ad-Din Husayn: To Those Who Attack Me I Say I Have Visited Arab Countries, but They Have Visited Israel"]

[Excerpts] Former Revolution Command Council member Kamal ad-Din Husayn has told *AL-AHALI* that he embarked on his Arab tour after suggesting the idea to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who supported and approved it as part of the efforts to end the Arab bloodshed in Tripoli.

He pointed out that this was his first meeting with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who showed significant understanding. He added: I worked out an agreement with him providing for 'Arafat's safe departure and the settlement of differences through democratic dialogue. When I conveyed the details of the agreement to 'Arafat over the telephone, he had one specific question for Al-Qadhdhafi. King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz also had one request to be passed to Al-Qadhdhafi. I managed to achieve what was required, but I am not now at liberty to divulge everything. In the days to come, the modest part I played for God and the homeland will be revealed.

Kamal ad-Din Husayn said that he intends to sue the papers which attacked him and claimed that he was plotting against Egypt. He added: Historical records will show that in the forties I resigned from the Army and went to Palestine as a volunteer in the war there. So how could I forget this cause, which is the cause of every Arab? We are more concerned about it than ever before. Furthermore, the countries I have visited are Arab countries. They probably would have considered me quite reasonable if I had visited Israel instead.

Referring to the U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement, Kamal ad-Din Husayn said that the agreement made everything clear. What is happening today, he said, is a natural result of U.S. influence and of As-Sadat's capitulation. What had been taking place in secret since Kissinger is now taking place openly. The alliance, the arms arsenals, and the exercises are now common knowledge.

### AL-AHALI Affirms Opposition to Israel Relations

*PM191652 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 14 Dec 83 p 2*

[Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad: "The People's Opinion on the Question of the Ambassador's Return"]

[Text] Shamir has claimed that the Egyptian people want to normalize relations with Israel but President Mubarak is against it. President Mubarak's reply was that the issue of the ambassador's return to Israel is a matter of Egyptian sovereignty, that it is a political issue, and that the ambassador will not return before complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, movement on the Tabah question, and resumption of efforts to settle the Palestinian question. He also said that Egypt's position is a matter of principle open to no bargaining or pressure and that this position will never change.

President Mubarak also said that after the completion of the Israeli withdrawal and the reactivation of the Tabah issue, he would seek the Egyptian people's opinion and approval of the Egyptian ambassador's return to Israel.

Shamir named the Egytpian people as a party to the issue of the ambassador's return, and President Mubarak agreed with him. Shamir has also emphasized that the Egyptian people want normal relations with Israel, and President Mubarak agreed to seek the people's opinion on this matter.

As an opposition people's party unrelated to the state or the government, we can assure Shamir that the Egyptian people definitely want peace, but they do not want to normalize relations with Israel, in fact they vehemently oppose it. Egypt's political forces have unanimously boycotted the Israelis. If the ruling party still deals with them, it does so in its capacity as an extension of the state, honoring the state's commitments, not as a political party reflecting public opinion in any way.

Egypt's political forces have unanimously boycotted the Israelis and rejected the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty not because they are against the Jews or have racist tendencies. Their attitude is the result of Israel's expansionist and aggressive policies, its violation of the peace principles, and its extreme racism and annexation and settlement designs.

It is now evident that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has led not to peace but to the neutralization of Egypt while Israel continues its war operations against the fraternal Arab people throughout the region.

It is now evident that Israel is against complete withdrawal even from Egyptian territory, which explains the Tabah problem.

Israel knows there can be no peace unless the Palestinian problem is solved, but it persists in its plans to liquidate every Palestinian entity and wipe the Palestinian people off the face of the earth.

Shamar's claim that the Egyptian people are opposed to President Mubarak's position on the question of the ambassador's return is ridiculous. If there is such an opposition, it is to the government for failing to take more measures against Israel and for wrongly continuing to pin hope on the United States against Israel. After the signing of the strategic agreement, one can no longer differentiate between the two. The time has come for the state to realize that Shamir derives his arrogance and insolence from the Reagan administration's unlimited support, even against Egypt.

### ASH-SHA'B Criticizes Cooperation With U.S.

*PM181756 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 13 Dec 83 p 7*

[Article by foreign affairs editor]

[Text] The recently announced U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation pact is in fact a declaration of war on the Arab states opposed to aU.S.-Israeli orchestrated peace and a step toward the ultimate aim of having these states join the U.S. bandwagon.

The immediate danger of the pact is evident from the fact that a real battle and actual fighting are taking place in Lebanon and on the Syrian border between supporters and opponents of U.S.-Israeli hegemony, which means in effect that the pact may even be implemented and put to the test in the field before the ink in which it was written dries.

In addition to their pact, Reagan and Shamir have announced the irreversibility of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which is another way of announcing a revival of the war against the Lebanese sects and Syrian and Palestinian forces opposed to that agreement. That war had eased and given way to a shaky truce pending the results of the Lebanese reconciliation conference, which authorized President Amin al-Jumayyil and officials in Washington to examine the possibility of revising that agreement. However, it appears that Al-Jumayyil himself has abandoned this mission. He has announced his full agreement with President Reagan on the situation in Lebanon. As a significant innuendo, the two presidents declared that the road to national reconciliation is very, very long, yet another indication of a return to arms.

This is probably the most dangerous aspect of the "devil's pact," which in actual fact was signed back in April 1981. It contains hardly anything different from the essence of the strategic political, economic, and military cooperation which has governed U.S.-Israeli relations for a long time and which has been dramatically boosted since President Reagan assumed power. The most serious aspect is the timing of the pact's revival, which coincides with the presence of U.S. and Israeli forces side by side in Lebanon, jointly facing the Lebanese factions and Lebanese Nationalist Movement, as well as the Syrian and Palestinian forces. Israeli and U.S. aircraft take turns in almost complete coordination in overflying and bombing Palestinian, Syrian, Shi'ite, and Druze positions.

If there is any advantage in the public formalization of the pact, it is that it allows a public reopening of the file on the U.S.-Egyptian "special" and "distinguished" relationship, which embodiesalmost all the provisions of the "devil's pact" concluded between Washington and Tel Aviv, including the placing of Egyptian military airfields, ports, and barracks at the service of the U.S. strategy in the Middle East, the holding of joint exercises, and the storing of U.S. arms on Egyptian territory.

The revival of the devil's pact puts the undeclared aspect of U.S.-Egyptian relations under the spotlight. Is anyone still prepared to accept the official justification and claim that these are special relations within the framework of nonalignment? Is it right to continue to accept the justification of these special relations now that it has become clear to every true patriot in what context all these services are offered to the hostile U.S. strategy?

How can anyone continue to accept the presence of a portion of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in the Sinai when this force is subject to the joint U.S.-Israeli strategy which is directed against all the Arabs, particularly the Egyptian people?

Will our government have the courage to cancel the joint exercises with the U.S. forces or will we one day witness joint tripartite exercises?

## Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,315

*JN191642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Dec (INA) — An Iraqi military communique has stated that the Iraqi forces killed or wounded 10 Iranian soldiers in the northern sector during the past 24 hours.

Communique No 1,315 issued here this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command added that the Iraqi forces have captured several serviceable weapons and military hardware in the same sector and have destroyed several excavators, one infantry position, and one hardware stockpile in the Maysan sector.

The communique mentioned that Mandali and its suburbs were shelled by the Iranian enemy today, damaging several civilian installations. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,315 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With increasing courage and intrepidity the valiant sons of our Armed Forces continue their activities against the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration opposite its positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, shelled it, killing or wounding 10 enemy elements and forcing the rest to flee. Our combat patrols captured several serviceable weapons and military hardware in another area in the same sector.

2. One of our combat patrols pounded several enemy excavators opposite one of our forward units' positions east of Basra with all types of weapons, scoring direct hits. One infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed in another area in the same sector.

3. One stockpile hardware was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The expansionist Iranian regime today shelled Mandali and its suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 December 1983

## Mideast Envoy Donald Rumsfeld Visits Baghdad

### Arrives 19 December

*JN191535 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Dec (INA) — Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, arrived in Baghdad this evening. Rumsfeld was welcomed at the airport by the chief of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

### Meets Tariq 'Aziz

*JN192004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Dec (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this evening received Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, the two sides discussed relations between Iraq and the United States, the current situation in the region, and issues of mutual interest. The discussion was held in a cordial and frank atmosphere. The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretaries 'Ismat Kittani and Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf and the official in charge of U.S. interests in Baghdad.

### Confers With Saddam Husayn

*JN201157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1132 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Dec (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received Donald Rumsfeld, the U.S. President's envoy to the Middle East, here today. The envoy conveyed to President Saddam Husayn a written message from the U.S. President, dealing with bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and the U.S. envoy's efforts in Lebanon. The Iraqi president emphasized to the U.S. envoy Iraq's objective viewpoint on international relations — a viewpoint based on national and pan-Arab [Qawmi] independence and on a balanced view stemming from profound faith in the principles of nonalignment. He also expressed Iraq's positive response to the United States' desire to continue contacts between Iraqi and U.S. officials for the sake of reaching a better understanding of each other's stands on regional international issues of common interest

President Saddam Husayn also stressed Iraq's concern for Lebanon's sovereignty and unity and stressed the need for the withdrawal of the other forces. He particularly affirmed that the region's problems can be solved only on the basis of an effective joint Arab action based on fundamental Arab interests of independence, development, stability, and the establishment of relations with other countries of the world in accordance with these interests.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the president's secretary; the official in charge of looking after the U.S. interests in Baghdad; and Thomas Miller, senior U.S. State Department official, attended the meeting.

### Departs 20 December

*JN201144 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Dec (IAN) — Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. envoy to the Middle East, left Baghdad this afternoon following a 20-hour visit to Iraq. During the visit, the U.S. evnoy held talks with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foriegn minister. The talks dealt with bilateral relations, the current situation in the Arab region, and topics of common interest.

**Writer Calls on Arabs To Boycott U.S.**
*JN191606 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Dec 83 p 28*

[Fahd ar-Rimawi article: "Blood on the Sands of Sinai"]

[Text] Dear reader, the United States is behind every political or moral crime on the face of the earth, and even in outer space and deep in the waters of the seas and oceans. If you want to know the cause of human suffering, the afflictions of mankind, and the degeneration of the values of freedom, justice, and truth, you must look to this imperialist state that indulges in arrogance and evildoing, is ruled by the cowboy morality, and its dedicated to serving monopoly capital.

If you want to know why Lebanon is being transformed into a furnace, why the Palestinian people are dispersed all over the world, why the Zionists are indulging in aggression and in bulding settlements, why the Arabs are being transformed into guinea pigs for various U.S. weapons of destruction, and why the hordes of colonialist hyenas are gathering around our region to tear our bodies apart and settle in our land, then look to the United States and its Reaganist leadership which is submerged in racism, reaction, and bigotry.

If you want to know of the most serious sources of political threats to our people, the origin of armed threats to our capitals, and the centers of the economic, social, and cultural dangers that threaten our nation's future, then look to the United States and its leadership, which is under the illusion that the Arab people are dead and that the Arab homeland is a mass graveyard.

Dear reader, is it true that our people have become downtrodden and our masses are living in ignominy? Has the deployment of the Marines and the promotion of the Israeli-U.S. strategic alliance destroyed our morale and broken our will to fight? Has the U.S. challenge to our nation realized it objectives or led to the opposite?

We do not want an answer to these questions from the United States. The practical answer is coming today from Sinai, as it came in the past from Beirut, Al-Biqa', and the mountain. By God, how good the Sinai news about the injury of two of the Marines stationed there as a result of an Egyptian fedayeen operation! This is the beginning of the good news and the first step in a long struggle, God willing. We are proud of the awakening of the Egyptian Arab giant. We hail the jaws of the pincer in the Egyptian south and the Syrian north. How awful this Reagan who has truly failed in his test with this nation and who will fall in his own country at the hands of this nation in less than a year!

Dear reader, if the United States once succeeded in drugging, terrorizing, dismembering, or paralyzing us, it was because it resorted to subtle maneuvers and secret plots amid a number of sound effects and deceptive solutions and under a camouflage of false friendship and neutrality. Today, when imperialist aggression assumes the form of military deployment and reaches the extent of an open strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy, the United States has placed itself opposite the Arab masses and has clearly and flagrantly provoked them. The United States has removed the mask of arbiter and mediator and appeared as a mean, grudge-bearing enemy. It has transformed its forces into an army of invasion and occupation and not a peace force. This U.S. army must face brave resistance not only by arms but by letting out the bitterness which has been accumulating in our hearts for many years.

Thus, the United States has knocked on our door and has heard the answer of the masses, and not the answer of the gardens. It is the answer of the Arab people who have been betrayed but have never capitulated or surrendered. They have never condoned the differences among their rulers or yielded to the artificial boundaries and the imaginary lines which divide their homeland. This land from the sea to the desert is their homeland, and this nation, which sat on the throne of history, is their nation.

Dear reader, this is the time for action, the time for glorious struggle. Let us begin by brandishing the weapon of boycott against U.S. goods and products. Let us raise the banner of contempt against the U.S. drugs and luxuries. Let us fight U.S. political, economic, and media influence. Afterward, let us chase the hordes of Israeli and U.S. enemies which are spreading like plague over our chaste Arab soil.

**Egyptian Economy Minister Holds Talks**
*NC170632 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, is conducting talks with key economic officials in Jordan on bolstering commercial exchange and promoting exports between the two countries. Dr as-Sa'id arrived in Amman yesterday on a visit during which he is expected to sign a protocol for economic and commercial cooperation. The protocol allows for widening tariff exemptions on goods exchanged by the two countries.

**Briefs**

**New Ambassadors** — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, accepted the credentials of three newly appointed ambassadors to Jordan at the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today. His highness accepted the credentials of Tunisian Ambassador Marwan Ben El Arabi, Bulgarian Ambassador (Dimitur Jordanov Jeff), and Philippines Ambassador (Sizarsi Pastorez). [Excerpt] [Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Dec 83 JN]

### Al-Wazzan Raps Israel on 'Arafat Departure Delay

*NC191344 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Commenting on Israel's policy of delaying the departure of Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestinian fighters from northern Lebanon, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Wazzan] We are surprised that Israel should behave like this, despite the commitment it has made regarding the need for the withdrawal of all the forces — its own and the Palestinians' — since the Beirut operation. The agreements thus far concluded for the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Tripoli are considered a part of this general agreement. We must be assisted in achieving this goal. The U.S. position in this regard is not as strong as expected. The strategic alliance between Israel and the United States should not have been concluded in the first place, and certainly not at the expense of the Arabs. The United States also should not be lenient with Israel, considering the situation we are in, and should not take such a stand. It is the United States' responsibility to help in this evacuation process. Its relations with Israel should be used to compel it to refrain from hampering the evacuation of the armed Palestinians.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, in your view, will the Israeli bombardment delay the departure of the Palestinian fighers?

[Al-Wazzan] Of course! What occurred yesterday and today has delayed the arrival of the Greek ships and hampered the whole operation for which preparations have been going on since last week. [end recording]

### Satisfied With Damascus Talks

*NC191828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] After placing President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil in the picture regarding the talks held in Damascus, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim this afternoon called on Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and assessed the results of the talks with him. Following a telephone conversation in which Prime Minister al-Wazzan agreed to meet with Minister Salim this afternoon, the prime minister expressed satisfaction with the positive aspects of the Damascus meeting among the Lebanese, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers, even though the Syrian position on the 17 May agreement has not changed. Sources close to Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that the contacts to stabilize the cease-fire are proceeding in a positive manner, and it is hoped that it will be possible to announce a unified decision by all the parties soon.

Regarding the information available on the results of the meeting of Ministers Salim, Khaddam, and Al-Faysal in Damascus, informed sources explained today that an agreement was reached at the Damascus meeting to keep the talks secret as this will ensure the interests of all, especially since the subjects being raised and discussed are extremely important. These sources said that there was a qualitative shift in the talks with regard to the nature of the discussions, which in the past had centered on ideological issues, while focusing on political issues this time. These sources maintained that the Damascus meeting's results might not be significant in the foreseeable future; however, it was the spirit of the meeting which matters, especially since the discussions dealt with all of the subjects, including the 17 May agreement, the security situation, political reforms, and the preparations for the national dialogue conference.

### Israelis Cut Sidon-Tyre Highway at Sinniq

*NC200830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Complete calm prevails in all areas according to the latest security reports. However, Israel is continuing its repressive measures in the south. The Israeli forces cut the Sidon-Tyre highway at the Sinniq locality, south of Sidon, at 0730.

It has been reported that an explosion occurred at 0745 in the Al-Buss locality near an Israeli position in Tyre. The cutting of the highway by the Israeli forces stranded thousands of citizens who were going to work.

### VOL: Israeli Military Governor in Sidon To Move

*NC200917 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] A strong explosion hit Riyad as-Sulh Street in Sidon at 1005. Our correspondent reports that there are casualties. The Israelis sealed off the area's roads soon after the explosion and began a combing operation in search of the culprits. According to our correspondent, the explosion was aimed at an Israeli patrol. A bomb was hurled at the patrol near the 'Ayn al-Hulwah parking lot. Our correspondent adds that clashes between the gunmen and Israelis in the area occurred as a result of the incident.

There was an explosion at 0745 today at an IDF post in the Al-Buss Quarter in Tyre. It has not been possible to assess the magnitude of the explosion or its results because of an Israeli security cordon around the scene of the incident. However, it has been learned that the Israelis have initiated a campaign of house raids.

The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the IDF will vacate the Government House in Sidon tomorrow in the wake of a series of high-level contacts at which the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and U.S. officials participated. It is expected that the Israeli military governor will move his headquarters to Qasr Nqula Salim in (Kfar Kalush).

### VOL Says Israelis, Not French, Overfly Tripoli

*NC201034 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] We can now report that Israeli planes overflew Tripoli this morning and not French planes as security sources had reported earlier.

### U.S., MNF Overflights

*NC201154 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] We were informed a short while ago that Israeli aircraft are flying over the south. U.S. aircraft overflew Beirut and multinational aircraft overflew the mountain region earlier.

### Shooting Heard as Israelis Stop French UNIFIL Convoy

*NC191519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] At 1530 today, the Israeli roadblock at the Al-Awwali Bridge halted a French military convoy operating within the framework of UNIFIL. The two sides subsequently alerted their forces, and combat positions were taken. Intensive shooting was also heard. Three UNIFIL trucks immediately blocked the main road between the Israeli roadblock near Al-Islah school and the position [as heard] at the Teachers College in Sidon. Negotiations were then conducted between Israeli and UNIFIL officers to overcome the problem.

### Syrian Party Kidnaps 7 Persons in Al-Kurah District

*NC200646 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Members of the Syrian Social National Party last night kidnapped a number of citizens in villages located in Al-Kurah District. The kidnappings were supervised and facilitated by the Syrian occupation forces. The kidnapped citizens are: 'Atif Nasr and Yusuf Tannus from Kifrayya; Adib al-Qadi, Bulus al-Qadi, Farid al-Bayi', and Ya'qub Qizhayya Nahra from Ijdi 'Brin; and Michel Hawwat from At-Ta'burah. It has been learned that the group which carried out the kidnappings is under the leadership of Khalil Faris of Kaftun and is being aided by local persons.

### Amal Leader Says U.S. Policy Prolongs Occupation

*LD191457 Prague CTK in English 1331 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Prague — "The U.S. military intervention in Lebanon has now exceeded the set aims and turned into an enforcement of U.S. targets in Lebanon and the Middle East. This U.S. initiative only supports and prolongs the occupation and drives the Lebanese people into a new stage of the war." This point was stressed by chairman of the Shi'ite movement "Amal", Nabih Birri in an interview for Czechoslovak radio.

Speaking about the U.S. military presence in Lebanon, he said that the Americans came there in the framework of multinational forces and started to struggle on the side of one Lebanese camp against another.

Nabih Birri emphasized that the Amal movement fully supports U.N. Security Council Resolutions no 502 and 509 according to which Israel is to withdraw from southern Lebanon and the whole Lebanese territory without any further conditions. He pointed out that there are no Palestinian bases in southern Lebanon today and that Israel has no argument for its presence there.

"There is no way to peace for Lebanon but the internal unity of all patriotic forces aimed at the liberation of Lebanon and the installation of internal justice," Nabih Birri stressed. "Our main goal and demand is to reach a national agreement in the Geneva talks or elsewhere. If we had formed a national patriotic regime earlier we would not find ourselves in the present situation and would not have to deal with the questions of national dialogue," he said.

Nabih Birri emphasized the significance of the unity of all patriotic Lebanese forces and stated that the present regime tries to divide the Lebanese people into religious groups to be able to dominate them better. However, they have nothing in common with religion though they claim to be Maronites, Shi'ites, Druzes, and Sunnis. The Amal movement demands the return to equality and independence between all strata and religious streams in Lebanon, Nabih Birri stressed.

### Islamic Revolutionary Council Formed in Beirut

*NC201101 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] An Islamic Revolutionary Military Council has appeared for the first time in the Al-Qasqas area of Tariq al-Jadidah in Beirut. The formation of the council has been called for by Shaykh 'Abd al-Hafiz Qasim, preacher of the 'Abd an-Nasir Mosque, who took it upon himself to confront and destroy Christian enterprises in the western portion of Beirut. However, the Council has another aim, namely, to confront the Iranian presence in the area. Some of Shaykh Qasim's gunmen have removed the pictures of Khomeyni and the Imam as-Sadr from the area.

**Al-Kasm Chairs Cabinet Meeting, Reaffirms Stand**
*JN191308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] The cabinet met at noon today under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. At the start of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm reviewed several new political issues dealing with ongoing contacts at both the Arab and international level. He noted the increasingly dangerous complications that have arisen as a direct result of the escalating U.S. intervention and the U.S.-Israeli alliance. Concerning this issue, the prime minister declared that the Syrian position is based on unwavering national principles which oppose any aggressive policy in Lebanon or the region as a whole. This position stems principally from an accurate perception of the current situation — which, in light of continuing U.S. intervention, the continued Israeli occupation, adherence to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and the accompanying acts of aggression and repeated threats — will complicate matters and have very serious consequences.

Dr al-Kasm concluded his explanation of these various developments with the words: Syria is determined to adhere to its fundamental stand. Syria will not pave the way for the U.S. scheme and Zionist expansion in Arab territory at the expense of Arab interests, particularly in wake of the U.S.-Israeli alliance.

**Commentary: Nation Resolved To Defend Itself**
*JN191504 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. planes have resumed their planned flights over Syrian positions in Lebanon. The purpose of these flights is to provoke antiaircraft fire and subsequently exploit this natural reaction as a pretext for using U.S. warships to shell those areas where Syrian forces and Lebanese nationalists are present. This U.S. practice, carried out with President Reagan's approval, is an intentional measure to touch off an interrelated series of violent and forceful acts. It is also a preplanned escalation of regional tension which carries with it the strong possibility of a military conflict which might transcend limited clashes and exchanges of fire. It might become a large-scale war into which forces and states unable to remain outside the fire erupting near their borders might be dragged.

What makes the U.S. provocations more dangerous is that they are being carried out in coordination with Israel and in conjunction with aggressive Israeli military operations. This is the first time that the United States has resorted to direct military intervention at Israel's side against the Arabs, thus dissipating all illusions about its real position vis-a-vis the Israeli-Arab struggle and the question of peace and war in the region. The United States has confirmed its direct responsibility for Israel's aggressive, expansionist policy and its flouting of international law and UN resolutions.

It is regrettable to discover that the U.S. Administration is under the illusion that Syria's declarations concerning its desire to hold dialogue rather than wage war, to argue logic with logic in accordance with international law and the UN Charter, and to avoid war with the United States is a sign of weakness or a factor which encourages aggressive, provocative acts without expecting a response or retaliation that is sufficient to stop aggression and force the aggressors to pay a high price for their activities.

We in this region have become accustomed to confronting the aggression which the United States instigates Israel to commit. We are resolved to make all the sacrifices necessary in the event we must exercise our legitimate right of self-defense. However, since its defeat in its war of aggression in Vietnam, the United States has not had to pay the price of its aggressive, antipeople policy. It would appear that the United States is embarking on an adventure, and that the American people may be forced to pay its price in terms of their reputation and the blood of their sons, just as they paid the price of U.S. policy in Vietnam and Southeast Asia — a mad policy whose creators were living in an unrealistic world of the past.

When we say that Syria is not Grenada, we mean what we say. Those in Washington must carefully consider these words and draw the necessary conclusions. We are aware that Syria is a very small country compared to the United States, the leader of the capitalist world. But we also know that the time when colonialist powers could decide the fate of the world, dictate the course of developments, and impose their will on other peoples through warships and guns has gone and will never return. The United States is incapable of reversing the wheels of history.

Although Syria does not want war, it is determined to exercise its legitimate right of self-defense in an efficient manner and with all the means at its command. It is also determined to respond to each step taken by the aggressors with appropriate steps of its own. These will allow the pooling of all necessary resources to foil aggression and prevent it from achieving its objectives. Syria has many friends in the world. They will not stand idly by while Syria's safety, Armed Forces, and rights are exposed to danger. The aggressor must bear the consequences of his aggression. He who is subjected to aggression has the right, in accordance with intenational law and the UN Charter, to use every possible means to defend himself. Syria will not hesitate for a single moment to make the means necessary for self-defense available, and to pool those resources which can curb the aggressors and explode their dreams of controlling the region and imposing their will on others.

It the Amercicans and Israelis are fond of talking about red lines that cannot be violated, they must realize that there are red lines in the region and the world that cannot be approached. It is absolutely certain that Lebanon will not become an American or Israeli colony, that the region will not be transformed into a U.S. state, and that the Mediterranean will not become a U.S. lake.

**Palestine Broadcast on 'Arafat's 'Reactionaries'**
*JN191933 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Palestine broadcast: From the "On the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: How

can 'Arafat serve the Palestinian cause by insisting on his political line, which is supported only by certain persons known for their rightist leanings and their connections with the Muslim Brotherhood? How can 'Arafat serve the cause through his insistence on ignoring the new realities within the Fatah movement, which arose following his leadership's rebellion against him? How can he serve the cause by ignoring the PLO's dire need for a unified leadership that will end the organization's state of collapse? How can 'Arafat serve the cause by reaffirming his intention to leave for Amman to strike a deal with King Husayn at a time when reports from Paris are talking about King Husayn's meeting with David Levi, the Israeli enemy's deputy prime minister?

Undoubtedly, 'Arafat and his intentions do not represent the Palestinian people and revolution. His policy is not in harmony with the Palestinian people's will and militant determination. It does not serve Palestinian national unity — the most important weapon in our people's hands in their confrontation of the fierce imperialist-Zionist onslaught. Even those elements which are described as loyal to 'Arafat, and whose departure from Tripoli the Zionist authorities pretend to fear, are primarily non-Palestinian. Most of them are remnants of the Muslim Brotherhood gang. Others have been sent to 'Arafat by the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes for the purpose of touching off fighting in northern Lebanon to serve the Camp David policy. Very few of these people were originally affiliated with the Palestinian revolution. Most of them, together with 'Arafat, have fallen into a trap from which they cannot escape.

People are undoubtedly wondering why the imperialists and Zionists have insisted on evacuating the Palestinian resistance forces — including 'Arafat — from Beirut. They are also wondering why Israel is refusing to allow 'Arafat and his men to leave Tripoli. The answer is clear. Those who have gathered around 'Arafat in Tripoli are not Palestinians. They are a group of reactionaries who were placed there to plot against Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese nationalist forces. If they leave Tripoli, those who placed them there will be robbed of the tool to carry out this plot. That, simply put, is the question, and it is sufficiently clear.

The factions within the Palestinian revolution must take a stand and decide the next step to remedy the PLO's situation. They must get rid of the deviationist elements, and strengthen Palestinian national unity on firm, solid ground, and on the basis of adherenece to the national charter and the original PLO program.

## PLO Prepares for Evacuation From Tripoli Port

### French Escort Greek Ships

*TA200639 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0625 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] We will now go to the port of Tripoli: Our Arab affairs correspondent Gay Bekhor has just entered the studio with an update about the state of the evacuation from that port:

[Bekhor] Well, here is a report which has just reached our studio: The AP correspondent in Lebanon reports that the five Greek ships escorted by the French warships entered the port of Tripoli a few minutes ago. Other correspondents in Tripoli report that the terrorists are continuing to gather near the port in anticipation of the evacuation.

Another report reaching our desk: Eyewitnesses in Tripoli say that unidentified aircraft, apparently French, overflew the city a short time ago, drawing antiaircraft fire.

### Government Intentions Not Clarified

*TA201136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] This item is just in from the newsroom: A senior Israeli official says Jerusalem has not told the United States what it intends to do about the PLO evacuation. The official said today there is still no answer that is committal. The Israeli official was reacting to U.S. statements that the United States expects Israel not to interfere. The official also said that Israel did not view the U.S. statements as a warning, but rather an explanation of the U.S. position. The United States has made it clear that it supports the evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon, and the PLO was one component.

### Levi on Evacuation

*TA200605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi returned from Paris last night where he discussed the evacuation of 'Arafat and his men from Tripoli with French President Francois Mitterrand and other officials. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav spoke with David Levi last night at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return to Israel.

[Begin Levi recording] I explained Israel's position that any help whatsoever would serve no purpose. These people are terrorists and will persist in their concept. I also said on French television that the result of this so-called humanitarian action by France and the United Nations would bring only one result: neither an arrangement in Lebanon, nor a continuation of the peace momentum but rather one result, namely: Until now there was one PLO, and henceforth there will be two of them, one outside and another inside Lebanon.

Of course, this question should not be the highlight of our relations with France and it should not be the cause of a confrontation. Our position should be explained with the utmost acuteness. That is exactly what I did, both in my talk with the president and with other officials. I would not say that they tried to influence, pressure, or plead. They also referred to this matter as being merely humanitarian. At the same time, they said they are demanding that 'Arafat repudiate terrorism. [end recording]

### Levi on Husayn, PLO

*TA200724 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by Pe'erli Shahar at Ben-Gurion Airport on 19 December — recorded]

[Text] [Shahar] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, during your stay in France there were reports of a possible meeting between yourself and King Husayn. Did you indeed meet with him?

[Levi] I heard those reports there and I deny them.

[Shahar] Why did you not meet with him? Did anyone act against this meeting behind the scenes?

[Levi] If we start going into the question of why now, you will soon ask me why I should have met with him. I said that I deny this. I heard those reports and I deny them.

[Shahar] Still, there was such a possibility?

[Levi] I cannot answer you whether or not there was such a possibility.

[Shahar] Was the departure of 'Arafat from Tripoli not raised in your talks with French Government officials?

[Levi] This issue was raised, but I would say it was not a central topic. The issue was mentioned as a humanitarian act, as the French see it. To a certain extent, it enrages us when they talk about the humanitarian act of rescuing terrorists, whose actions the French denounce. However, this was not the highlight of the talks. I expressed the position of the Israeli Government. They did not seek the approval of the Israeli Government, so we had to explain our position and that is exactly what I did.

[Shahar] The departure of 'Arafat from Tripoli was scheduled for this morning. Do you believe that 'Arafat will get out of Tripoli this morning?

[Levi] I cannot make any assessment whatsoever on this matter.

[Shahar] President Mitterrand was instrumental in the release of the six Israeli prisoners held by the PLO. Did you also discuss the matter of the Israeli prisoners held by Jibril?

[Levi] We spoke about the prisoners in general and about the missing soldiers. He also explained the difficulties entailed in this matter. I also appealed to him on the question of the soldiers missing in Egypt, the bodies of those not found or handed over. He promised to do his best to help on all these matters. I also gave him a paper with all the details. He promised to personally do his very best.

[Shahar] Also concerning the Israeli prisoners held by Jibril?

[Levi] He did not promise that, but this is being dealt with in another framework.

### PLO Assures France, Greece

*TA191856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i says that in return for evacuating Yasir 'Arafat and his troops, Greece and France have received a promise that there will be no more terrorist attacks on their soil. Moda'i said today that the French and Greek assistance to 'Arafat was not motivated by humanitarian or political considerations only.

## Defense Minister Remarks to Knesset Committee

### Tyre Attack, Lebanon Presence

*TA191658 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens today appeared before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and in his remarks he referred to the findings of the inquiry commission investigating the Tyre attack, as well as to the IDF presence in Lebanon. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports:

[Begin recording] Defense Minister Moshe Arens today told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the findings included in the report on the Tyre attack are grave. He said that it would be necessary to wait until the investigation branch of the Military Police conclude their investigation into the affair before determining whether personal responsibility will fall on commanding officers.

On the IDF presence in Lebanon, Arens said that anyone who thinks we can pull out of Lebanon within 4 or 5 weeks does not realize what the situation there is like. We must safeguard peace in the Galilee, first of all by forming local policing elements — not Israeli — and establishing that kind of framework is not a matter of a few weeks. [end recording]

### Tripoli, West Bank Measures

*TA191725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Defense Minister Arens, who appeared before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today, refused to specify what Israel's intention is regarding the shelling of Tripoli. However, according to our correspondent, members of the Knesset committee who participated in today's meeting understood Arens's remarks to mean that Israel is not enthusiastic about the terrorists' departure from Tripoli and would like to see continued fighting between 'Arafat's followers and the rebels. The defense minister said Israel is not encouraging the evacuation, nor will it help those who help rescue terrorist gangs. He emphasized that Israel will not let the Jerusalem bus explosion go unnoticed.

On the situation in Judaea and Samaria, Minister Arens said that the rioting there has not worsened. The demolition of houses of people suspected of terrorist activity is the only deterring penalty, in the opinion of all who deal with this issue. He nevertheless mentioned he had hesitated before he instructed that this measure be adopted and that he is continuing to examine punishment methods for future purposes.

### West Bank Housing Destruction

*TA200711 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Dec 83 p 1*

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Moshe Arens said yesterday that Israel would have to "live with the problem of Arab stone-throwing in Judaea and Samaria because it does not want to take measures contrary to its norms."

Briefing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Arens said that Jewish settlers in the areas who take the law into their own hands are playing into the hands of the Arab rioters, who are only seeking to cause a deterioration in the security situation.

Arens said that every Israeli expert handling affairs in Judaea and Samaria agreed that demolishing houses occupied by terrorists is the most powerful deterrent measure available, and hence is not to be dispensed with.

He said: "We are continuing to study the matter. We would like to reach clearer conclusions. We are continually seeking effective deterrents. Should it emerge that demolition of houses fails to deter effectively, we shall stop using that measure."

On the general situation, he said that support for the PLO in Judaea and Samaria had fallen off lately and Israel must encourage this trend.

During the first eight months of this year, Arens said, there were more riots in the areas than in the corresponding months of 1982. The situation eased in September and October but in November there was a new upsurge, with 40 percent more incidents than in November 1982.

Arens said that there is no way of keeping Jews and Arabs apart in Nazareth any more than in Judaea and Samaria. The attempt to keep them separate does not make for better relations, he said.

## Ben-Eli'ezer, Shultz Discuss E. Jerusalem Consulate

*TA191855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Differences of opinion have arisen in Washington between Israel and the United States regarding the nature of the function of the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem. Israel contends that the consulate cultivates hostile elements. The United States replies that the consulate's activities are in keeping with U.S. interests and are aiming to improve the quality of life in the territories.

This evening a meeting took place in Washington between Secretary of State George Shultz and the coordinator of activities in the territories, Binyaim Ben-Eli'ezer. Razi Barqay reports:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] The coordinator of activities explained to Secretary Shultz that Jerusalem considers the West Bank and Israel to be one economic unit. A U.S. initiative for developing the infrastructure in the territories is welcome, but not by under the table means, so to speak, but over the table. Ben-Eli'ezer presented Shultz with a list of projects in which Israel is prepared to include the United States. Their financial worth amounts to $100 million.

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I certainly emphasized that we are speaking of a country of law and order when we refer to the territories. After all, matters have to go through us, with our approval, under our supervision, with wise use being made, I would say, of our experience in the field. If there is any plan or program to develop Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip that is being effected by us, then it is certainly not acceptable to us for another body to engage in development work on the side.

[Barqay] At this point the Americans are speaking of only $15 million, but it is clear to both sides that behind these sums there is a different political concept. Israel is interested in a controlled economic development. The United States is interested in signaling to Husayn that there is something to talk about. By means of dollars, it would like to encourage Jordan to come to the negotiating table. [end recording]

### Ne'eman: De Facto Peace Prevails With Jordan

*TA161750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Dec 83*

[Text] Minister Yuval Ne'eman has said that those advocating talks with Jordan's King Husayn must know they are jeopardizing a state of de facto peace which exists between Israel and Jordan. According to him, this state has prevailed for 16 years although Israel has not made any territorial concessions whatsoever. In contrast, a cold peace prevails between Israel and Egypt although Israel gave back the entire Sinai.

### Ministers To Brief Shamir on Foreign Contacts

*TA181506 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Dec 83 p 2*

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] From now on ministers will brief the prime minister and foreign minister on their meeting with ambassadors and foreign officials. This directive, which was decided upon in the higher governmental echelons, is meant to prevent overexposure in meetings of ministers with foreign officials, especially with foreign ambassadors accredited to Israel. The background to this new directive was the unveiling of the meetings of late Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich and other ministers, among them former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, with U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis. Yitzhaq Shamir did not accept the request of Minister Sharon to set up an investigation committee in order to uncover the "conspiracy of American and Israeli officials to dismiss him from his job." However, by means of the new directive the ministers are expected to behave more carefully in internal political issues and diplomatic subjects and in their dealings with foreign officials.

### Hand Grenades Explode in West Bank Village

*TA200721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Two booby-trapped hand grenades exploded this morning in the village of Al-'Ayzariyah, east of Jerusalem. Two people were wounded, one of them severely. The grenades were planted at the entrance of a mosque and a convent. The ITIM correspondent reports that large police and IDF forces are now searching the village.

### 'Terror' Group Implicated

*TA200806 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0755 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] An unidentified person who phoned the Red Telephone [IDF Radio's news flash program] said that the Terror Against Terror organization had planted the booby-trapped hand grenades in the village of Al-'Ayzariyah near Jerusalem this morning. The man did not identify himself, and immediately after saying these words he hung up.

### Report on New U.S. Lebanon Initiatives

*TA181206 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Dec 83 pp 1, 11*

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] The United States will soon begin a new initiative in Lebanon with the aim of making possible the deployment of a Lebanese brigade in the area north of the Litani River, and a gradual withdrawal of the IDF from lebanon.

Security elements told *MA'ARIV* that in the talks conducted by the prime minister and the defense minister in Washington, it was agreed that the United States will mediate between the various elements in Lebanon, including the Lebanese Government and Israel, regarding a plan whose aim is to make possible the deployment of a Lebanese Army brigade on the line north of the Litani River. The IDF would then withdraw to the zone controlled by Major Haddad in the past [as published] (the southern Lebanese zone). The intention is to set up a force which will be based on Haddad's army and which will control the zone under the IDF's supervision. These two elements will be responsible for preventing terrorist penetration, each in the zone under its control.

This initiative in fact means a change in the Israeli-Lebanese agreement whereby a territorial brigade was slated to be established in the southern region under the command of a Lebanese Army officer.

Substantive disagreements have recently emerged between Israel and the Beirut government on this issue. Amin al-Jumayyil

insists on his position that this force should be established according to a Lebanese formula. Israel has rejected this for fear it will lose influence and control over the force which will operate in southern Lebanon, and will thus lose influence and control over events in this region.

### Jerusalem Welcomes U.S. Security Aid Document

*TA180543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Text] Our first topic today is a message from Washington which is praised in Jerusalem: A letter by President Reagan regarding aid to Israel, which is the first commitment of its kind by a U.S. President. Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik has the details.

[Begin recording] Jerusalem and Washington worked secretly on this Presidential annex before and during the prime minister's visit to the United States. The efforts have borne fruit, and at the end of last week Prime Minister Shamir received the letter signed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. In the document the President states, among other things, that in the next fiscal year, 1985, the United States will give Israel military aid as agreed upon, totalling $1.4 billion, entirely as a grant. In addition, however — and this is the important part — the President states that the United States will show understanding for Israel's increasing security needs, and will accordingly make an effort to put the level of military aid in the coming years on a par with Israel's needs. The commitment is not expressed in figures, apparently, but I have learned that this is based on an understanding reached between the two countries and anchored in data regarding aid which will continually increase as of 1986 onward.

Jerusalem attaches great importance to this commitment, and views it as one of the major achievements, perhaps the most outstanding one in the economic sphere, resulting from Shamir's trip to Washington. There is no detailed contract here but there is a first commitment of its kind signed by a U.S. President regarding meeting Israel's security needs. We have not yet heard official reactions to this. Unofficially, government officials claim it will be difficult for the Americans to disregard this document in future. The feeling in the prime minister's office and in the Finance and Defense Ministries is probably better with such a letter in their pockets. [end recording]

### Finance Minister on U.S. Aid, Economy

*TA190808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said that we are faced with a difficult interim period, and by September 1984 we will have to settle for the standard of living we had 3 years ago. The finance minister also said that for a year or two we will have to cope with a decline of up to 15 percent in our standard of living. Other forecasts by the finance minister: The United States indeed aids Israel, but we should not delude ourselves that the U.S. aid will extricate Israel from its economic problems. It is necessary to decrease the deficit in the balance of payments, among other things in order to maintain Israel's status in the international monetary market. Finance Minister Yitzhaq Kohen-Orgad spoke before Herut movement youths in Tel Aviv, and our correspondent Eli'ezer Pney-Gil cites some of his remarks:

[Begin recording] [Kohen-Orgad] There is no chance that we will be able to increase the sum of aid above the $2.6 billion reached now. There is no readiness to increase the aid beyond this. No doubt, the Americans are not giving us this aid because of our beautiful eyes. They have a clear political interest in a strong Israel. However, I would like to issue a warning here. The Americans had and still have a political interest in the existence of a strong Turkey.

[Pney-Gil] Kohen-Orgad said that the Americans are interested in a strong Turkey, but that despite this fact Turkey has reached the point of galloping inflation, shortage of raw materials, and millions of unemployed people. Israel todays owes about $3 billion which she borrowed as short-term loans, according to Yig'al Kohen-Orgad. If we do not show that we can return these funds, and that our economic situation is improving, we will not be able to find a creditor to lend us necessary funds in future.

### IRC Evacuation From Dayr al-Qamar Continues

*TA191713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Another 518 people left Dayr al-Qamar today under the auspices of the International Red Cross and are now making their way toward Beirut. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the convoy crossed through the Druze villages in the eastern Ash-Shuf region without any problems. The traffic axes of the convoy in the Ash-Shuf region were safeguarded by the IDF, which included units of paratroopers, Golani [a land force], and the reemerging Giv'ati Brigade.

### IRC Spokesman

*TA191947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] The Red Cross has evacuated another 500 Christian refugees from the Lebanese Ash-Shuf mountain town of Dayr al-Qamar. There were no incidents. The IRC spokesman in Geneva, Jean-Jacques (Kurtz) also denied reports that Lebanese Druze had shot at the civilian convoy yesterday. He told reporter Sari Robert that a total of 4,500 refugees will have been evacuated from the town by the time the agreement ends later this week.

[Begin recording] [Kurtz] We have about a thousand people who prefer to leave for south Lebanon, and the others prefer to be driven north to Beirut. We had two convoys already on the 15th and on the 16th, and there were some incidents because of a general nervosity along the road. We preferred to stop and not have any evacuation on the 17th, but on Sunday the 18th it resumed. And today, Monday the 19th, I learned that another convoy could leave Dayr al-Qamar. So if everything goes smoothly and according to schedule, it will take from now another 4 to 5 days until the evacuation is completed.

[Robert] There were some reports that the Druze had tried to make some intervention, not letting the people go, shooting. Is that so?

[Kurtz] Well, we have no report of shooting at the buses, but as I said, some incident took place. That was due to a general nervosity along the road. That was why we stopped the third convoy. It just did not take place, but I can tell you that in the one on Sunday, for instance, everything was absolutely okay without the slightest incident to be reported, and so far today it is the same. [end recording]

## Strain in Relations With Egypt Causing Concern

### Minister Moda'i Comments

*TA161752 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Dec 83*

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has expressed the hope that Israeli citizens will keep their good attitude toward Egypt's official representatives. In a meeting with Liberal Party activists, Moda'i also expressed the hope that the Egyptian president and members of his Cabinet will state that they have reservations about reports in the Egyptian weekly *AL-MUSAWWAR* regarding Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sason.

### Incident Near Alexandria Consulate

*TA171658 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown the day before yesterday at a car which was parked in front of the Israeli Consulate in Alexandria. Nobody was injured and the assailant was arrested. This was disclosed today by the Israeli Consul Sha'ul Bar-Hayim.

The Israeli Consulate in Alexandria is situated on the 10th floor of an apartment building in one of Alexandria's busiest streets. The Molotov cocktail was thrown on the same day members of the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv complained that Egyptian diplomats and their cars were subjected to harassment.

### Egyptian Official Declines Invitation

*TA180743 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Dec 83 p 1*

[Excerpt] A senior adviser to the Egyptian foreign minister yesterday declined an official invitation to visit Israel.

According to the Egyptian weekly October, Ash- Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid told Israel Ambassador Moshe Sason that "under existing circumstances" he could not accept the invitation.

It had been agreed during a visit to Cairo 10 days ago by Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche that a representative of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry would soon visit Israel to further the dialogue between the two countries.

Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources said that Israel had promised to increase security precautions at the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv, following complaints by embassy staffers of vandalism and threats.

### 'Cold Peace' Concerns U.S.

*TA171949 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] The United States takes a serious view of the continued cold peace between Israel and Egypt. Our political correspondent has learned that in the talks with the prime minister and defense minister in Washington, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said he was very disappointed that President Mubarak has not fulfilled his promises to Shultz and had not begun moves to return the Egyptian ambassador to Israel. Our correspondent adds that the Egyptians have so far not fulfilled their promise to send a senior Egyptian official to Israel to proceed with the talks foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche began in Egypt a few weeks ago.

### Press on Egyptian Relations

*TA190815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[From review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *DAVAR* says that a warning light should light up both in Cairo and Jerusalem in view of a Molotov cocktail being thrown at the car of an Israeli diplomat in Alexandria, even if this was merely an action by street urchins, as the local Israeli consul defined it, as well as in view of the actions against Egyptian diplomats' cars in Tel Aviv. One should not make light of such incidents, which may cause a deterioration in Israeli-Egyptian relations to the point of a graver crisis which is undesirable to two parties that still adhere to the peace treaty. The police and security services in both countries will surely be able to cope with this. It is also desirable that Egyptian papers, which often express Egyptian Government views, refrain from continued incitement against Israel's Embassy in Cairo. The paper adds that Israel and Egypt can and must try to take real action to resolve the crisis in their bilateral relations; otherwise the investment and concessions by both sides will have been in vain.

*THE JERUSALEM POST* writes that one should refrain from unnecessarily overstating the discontent in the current Israeli-Egyptian relations. Therefore, one cannot accept the police claim that the recent violence against Egyptian diplomats' cars and apartments is part of the routine crime in Tel Aviv. Even if this is true, a special police unit should be set up to safeguard the well-being of diplomats from Egypt and other countries, along the lines of a similar unit active in Washington. The safety of the diplomatic corps in both Israel and Egypt is a precondition for peaceful relations.

**Further Press Comment**

*TA180917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* writes about the link between the terrorist acts in London and in the Middle East. The paper says it is apparently impossible to convince the civilized world that it should fight all manifestations of terror in self-defense. While London is burying the casualties in the terrorist acts, Europe is busy rescuing Yasir 'Arafat and his men from Tripoli.

*YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes about the relations between Israel and Egypt, saying that the Egyptians do not seem to want to settle for the current state of affairs, and apparently intend to dissociate themselves from us officially too. According to the paper, we may soon see the day when our ambassador to Egypt isexpelled. Therefore, the paper wonders whether we had not better recall our ambassador home before we become a laughing stock in the world.

**Relations Expected To Improve**

*TA191202 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Dec 83 p 3*

[Report by Yehoshu'a Tadmor]

[Text] The Egyptian Government will soon take steps in the spheres of tourism and the economy and may even initiate a few visits intended to bring Israeli-Egyptian relations back to normal. This was reported yesterday by diplomatic sources in Jerusalem who arrived from Cairo.

The sources estimated that what really happened in the relations between the two countries was not an intentional worsening, but a deterioration that both sides could not control, despite the absence of any intention or decision to bring about a deep rift.

As might be recalled, the deterioration began with the sabotage of Egyptian Embassy cars, carrying diplomatic license plates, which were severely damaged in Tel Aviv. This was extensively covered by the Egyptian press and caused much anger.

The Egyptians saw the attacks as an attack on their national dignity, and reacted angrily in various ways. Later Ambassador Sason's cable was published, which was a kind of alarm message, a little exaggerated in its hysterical tone, although an ambassador facing such phenomena and such a difficult atmosphere cannot be judged.

The cable, which was headlined by one of the midday papers, added fuel to the fire; and the Egyptian media made the most of it.

So the first round of the deterioration was completed when Moshe Sason's status was damaged, if not totally ruined. The Egyptians are very sensitive about the way they are portrayed in the eyes of foreign diplomats, especially Israelis, and see it as a question of national dignity.

The Egyptians felt another affront in the statements of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Washington, which included sharp criticism of Egyptian treatment and manner toward Israel, including the statements attributed to Israel implying that Shamir asked the United States to stop aid to Egypt.

On this, Husni Mubarak reacted publicly toward Shamir: "Do you know the Egyptian public or public opinion better than me?" This statement expressed the height of Egyptian anger, until the throwing of the grenade at an Israeli consulate car in Alexandria, which was another expression of the anger of the Egyptian public.

However, since it is clear that Egypt is not interested in further deterioration, a slight improvement can be expected in the next few days.

## ALGERIA

### Libyan Request To Join Maghreb Treaty Welcomed

*NC191958 Paris AFP in English 1933 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Algiers, Dec 19 (AFP) — Libya's request to join the Maghreb Treaty was welcomed here today, provided its boundary disputes with treaty members Algeria and Tunisia were settled.

An authoritative Algerian source said that the Libyan request would have to be studied by the Treaty signatories — Mauritania last week joined the other two — to ensure that it corresponded with the letter and spirit of the agreement.

Algeria has settled its boundaries with its other neighbours, but the frontier with Libya still has to be marked out. Tunisia is in dispute with Libya over their continental shelf.

The Libyan request was thought to have been contained in a message from Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid delivered by Libya's representative here last Thursday, two days after Mauritania signed the treaty.

### Bendjedid Addresses FLN Party Congress

*LD192206 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] We open our news bulletin with a report from our team at the 5 July Olympic Center, where, as is known, the work of the fifth FLN party congress officially began this morning.

[Begin recording] The congress was opened by the general secretary of the FLN, President Chadli Bendjedid.

The congressional bureau elected Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia as its chairman, and the congress later approved its internal statute and agenda.

President Chadli Bendjedid delivered an analytical speech in which he dealt with the achievements made since the last congress. He spoke of the real meaning of Islam, and stressed the need to incorporate this into educational and cultural programs. He also highlighted the fact that officials, intellectuals, and particularly the family are the forces most responsible for conveying the message of the revolution to our rising generations. The post-independence generation has not experienced colonialism, and it is here where the struggler must play his part. The president further pointed out that the task of instilling the spirit of the revolution in the current generation is not yet finished.

President Chadli Benjedid spoke about the role of the people's National Army. He described it as the successor and descendant of the Liberation Army. It is considered one of the living forces of the nation, especially through its participation in development activities, a task which has been added to its primary mission — that of defending the homeland.

Regarding youth, President Chadli Bendjedid made it clear that the young people of Algeria need only to be looked after in order to have them offer more in comparison with their counterparts from the various other countries of the world. At this point, he greeted the sons of the national service for the efforts they have made on behalf of the homeland. He also saluted the popular organizations for the role they play in (?confronting) all the enemies of the revolution and in managing our national economic affairs.

The president also dealt with the role of the various organs established by the constitution and their serious fight against social ills. He referred to the audit office, and noted that it plays an important part in exposing attempts at embezzlement and lawbreaking. He explained that this office is governed by law and justice, and that its task is to serve the will of the strugglers and the Algerian people, since the law is subject to the will of both the grassroots and the nation. Here he explained that the audit office does not govern, and that the laws are supreme in maintaining the nation's structure and economy. President Chadli Bendjedid repeated Algeria's concept of socialism. He declared that socialism is the course of development being followed by the country.

Regarding the FLN, the president stressed once more that this party is the guarantee of continuity, and must pass on the message and the flame of freedom to the coming generations. He called upon officials to give young people and the educated an opportunity to join the FLN.

When President Chadli Bendjedid discussed regional issues — particularly border issues — he explained that these constitute our newest service to the revolution, especially to our coming generations. This is so because we cannot now be accused at some later date of having obtained our independence and left time bombs for future generations — time bombs through which colonialism might once again penetrate. President Chadli Bendjedid underlined the good relations which exist among Algeria, Tunisia, and the neighboring countries. He also praised the efforts made by the two countries' institutions to bring their viewpoints closer together. While referring to the question of Western Sahara, the president reaffirmed Algeria's unwavering and principled stance in favor of assisting the downtrodden. He declared that there will be no Arab Maghreb at the expense of our Saharan brothers.

#### Further Report

*LD192229 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] The president also referred to the Namibian and Palestinian peoples, and, in this connection, recalled Algeria's principled positions: Support for the Palestinian cause, support for its legitimate organization, the PLO, and for its leader, Yasir 'Arafat.

Another problem he discussed was that of the war between two Muslim peoples — the Iranian people and the Iraqi people.

Algeria continues to make efforts to restore peace between Iraq and Iran. Algeria is also concerned with the situation in the Mediterranean, and hopes that this sea will become a bridge between civilizations and an axis of peace.

President Chadli Benjedid concluded by discussing (?South)-South cooperation and Algeria's role in such relations, particularly at the level of the African Continent. As for the North-South dialogue, he naturally mentioned the current deadlock and the need to arrive at a new international economic order.

## LIBYA

### People's Congresses Discuss Foreign Policy

*LD191509 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Dec (JANA) — The Basic People's Congresses, the highest authority in Libya, have begun their new session in preparation for the upcoming meeting of the General People's Congress, which will formulate the resolutions adopted by the Basic Congresses.

A number of extremely important issues at the local, Arab, African, and international levels are being discussed.

The agenda to be studied by the Basic Congresses contains a number of important foreign policy issues on which decisive resolutions will be adopted. The following are the foreign policy issues:

1. Consideration of the report submitted by the General People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with regard to the following:

A. Changing the UN Charter;

B. Abolishing the right of veto;

C. Halting the buildup of nuclear arms, which threatens mankind with annihilation.

2. Consideration of the question of the deployment of U.S. missiles in southern Italy.

3. Consideration of the events in Lebanon and the definition of the Libyan Arab people's position regarding them.

4. Consideration of steps for the achievement of the unity of the Arab Maghreb.

5. Formulation of the attitude to be adopted by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah toward those African countries which have restored relations with the Zionist enemy and those contemplating such a move.

6. The question of the failure of the General People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to circulate any reports to the Popular Congresses through the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress on the following matters:

A. The results of the visits by the brother leader of the 1 September Revolution to a number of fraternal and friendly countries;

B. The results of the African summit conference held in Addis Ababa;

C. Those Arab and international events which affect the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Arab cause, as well as the measures adopted by the General People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in regard to these events.

### Maltese Foreign Minister Departs 19 December

*LD191950 Tripoli JANA in English 1907 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi al Awal 14, Dec 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Maltese foreign minister left Tripoli this afternoon after having held talks with several general people's committee secretaries on bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Malta.

## MOROCCO

### French Communist Delegation Pays Visit

*PM191535 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 10 Dec 83 p 6*

[Unattributed report: "PCF-PPS Talks in Rabat"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Moroccan Party of Progress and Socialism [PPS], a French Communist Party [PCF] delegation visited Morocco 2-7 December 1983.

Talks were held with a PPS delegation (footnote) (The PPS delegation included Politburo member and Central Committee Secretary Omar el-Fassi, Politburo member Thame el-Khyari, and Central Committee member Khalid Naciri.

The PCF delegation was made up by Jacques Denis, member of the Central Committee and deputy chief of the Foreign Policy Section, and Patrick Ribau, Foreign Policy Section staffer), which provided an opportunity for useful exchanges of information and opinions on the political situation in Morocco and France, and on current international questions.

The two delegations confirmed the full validity of the communique issued by their parties in November 1982. They declared their common concern for safeguarding peace and promoting disarmament, action for popular independence, a new international economic order, and the defense of democratic freedoms.

The two delegations provided information on the activity of each party in its respective country. They agreed to continue and strengthen their cooperation in the future.

During its visit, the PCF delegation was received by PPS Secretary General Ali Yata. It also attended the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the PPS, and was received by the Rabat

regional committee and by several PPS branches in the city of Rabat and in the Gharb agricultural region.

During its stay in Rabat, the PCF delegation was received at the headquarters of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces by Politburo member Mohamed el-Yazghi, with whom questions of common interest and cooperation between the two parties were discussed.

## SUDAN

### Numayri on Ethiopia, Opposition, Islamic Law

*PM151130 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Dec 83 pp 3, 7*

[Part I of interview with President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri by 'Irfan Nizam ad-Din in London while the president was "returning from a tour of the United States, Italy, France, and Britain"]

[Excerpts] Question: Mr President, what were the results of your medical tests in Washington?

Answer (quickly): Everything is fine, thank God. The results of the tests are reassuring. They are routine tests which I undergo annually.

Question: There are many hot Arab and local issues. Let us begin with Sudanese affairs, particularly the Ethiopian threats and troop concentrations, which are increasing daily — the plot against Sudan. Do you think, Mr President, that these concentrations mark the beginning of a war with Ethiopia, and how can this situation be dealt with?

Answer: Ethiopia cannot fight at the present time because it has enough problems to turn your hair white. The Ethiopian Government simply wants to divert the Ethiopian people's attention to an issue which I consider to be peripheral, just as it did earlier with Somalia, when it rallied public support under the pretext of protecting Ethiopia. It raised the big slogan "Ethiopia Sacrifices," and that solved Mengistu's domestic problems, or some of his domestic problems. Unfortunately, Somalia committed some strategic mistakes when it attacked Ethiopian territory recognized as such by the OAU and the rest of the world. When the Somalis withdrew, Ethiopia exaggerated the matter, of course, claiming that the war was still going on. They brought in the Cubans and Soviets, and so forth, and began to attack Somalia. Now they want to repeat the same game with Sudan, but unfortunately for them, Sudan has not entered or fought inside Ethiopia, nor does it have any intention of doing so. They have ordered these troop concentrations and brought in many foreign soldiers — whom you know as well as we do — in order to provoke us into attacking them. However, we will not do that. Our current policy and strategy is to protect our country from within, because it is part of their policy to send people in to carry out acts of terrorism. They have failed because our forces at home have a good strategy which relies on Sudan's depth. Anyone who comes in cannot go out, except by an aircraft capable of flying long distances. In other words, if a helicopter tried to take people out of the country it would not be able to complete the journey.

Question: It has been reported that the situation in the south is quite serious. Ethiopia may not be in a position to fight, but it can plot from within. How serious is the situation in the south, and is there a secessionist plot under way at this particular time?

Answer: There is talk of secession and claims that northern Sudan wants to Arabize the south and control its economy. These claims are made by the revolution's enemies inside Sudan. They failed in their bid to gain the leadership, and the people of the south rejected them in free elections. Therefore, they went to Ethiopia. In Ethiopia they discovered that Libya had the upper hand, so they began to work jointly. Encouraged by the Soviets, they began to create these problems. They trained a large number of Sudanese living in Ethiopia. There are tribes which reside in both Ethiopia and Sudan. They put pressure on these tribes to make them go to Ethiopia and then they called them refugees. However, they do not allow any official of the refugee organization to visit their camps. They do not allow such visits at all, and yet they want the organization to spend millions on them without even seeing them. The organization, aware of the role assigned to these people, refused. They train them and then send them in. As I said, they have carried out operations and failed. As a result, they have resorted to incitement. This has led many people in the world to believe that Sudan is sitting on a volcano. The truth is that the situation in Sudan is calm. Anyone wishing to verify this fact should come here. If journalists wish to come and ask us questions, we are willing to receive them. However, we are not prepared to leave the area empty and unprotected. They try to intimidate us and the Sudanese forces. The truth is that the Sudanese forces [in the south] are southern forces, that is, they are from the south. They want us to withdraw them. Withdraw them from where? From their own territory? What I mean to say is that our forces have a right to be everywhere in order to serve the homeland, its unity, territorial integrity, and borders.

Question: Do you not believe that in addition to these recent activities, there is perhaps an international strategy or plot involving various parties from both the East and West aimed at wreaking vengeance on Sudan for applying Islamic law?

Answer: That may be the case. I cannot say there is no such plan. The world is full of plans — that is, plots against states. It happened to Bangladesh and Pakistan. If the perpetrators are Ethiopia and Libya, we can handle them. We can handle the situation even if the Soviets are involved, but if the West gets involved, it would mean an international plot which no one could resist. If the whole world decides to partition a country without war — if it agrees to partition Sudan, Egypt, or the Arab world — no one can say anything.

Question: Mr President, on the question of the Islamic shari'a, I am anxious to report — in great detail — the motives which prompted you to take that step and return to the Islamic shar'ia. There must certainly be some personal dimensions and reasons in addition to the Sudanese people's genuine religious commitment. Were there any incidents which contributed to this development?

Answer: One cannot say that any incident or incidents contributed to that development, which in actual fact is tantamount to a programming of our political action. It could also

be described as the third stage or third beginning for the president of the republic, the same president who initiated the revolution.

Question: I am asking about the personal dimension. In addition to the religious motive and faith, there must have been a personal motive.

Answer: Yes, there was a personal motive. One of the things you may have noticed about me is that I never break a promise or fail to honor a pledge. I do what I say. One of the things that no one knew until now is that my revolutionary colleagues who were at one time or another caught red-handed plotting against the revolution have lost nothing. Before embarking on our revolutionary course we agreed that every member of the Revolutionary Council would get his salary and any other due compensation in full, regardless of what happened, even if he plotted against the revolution. More than six members of the council who were involved in plots are still receiving their salaries and living in government homes. Cars have also been issued to them, and the Sudanese people know that I wish no harm to befall them.

Question: So there will be no going back on the decision to apply the Islamic shari'a.

Answer: Certainly not, whatever the international pressures and plots against us. There is widespread immorality and a high rate of moral crime among foreigners because there is no deterrent.

The British ambassador once came to me and said: How can you ban alcoholic drinks? I have experts here.

I told him: If they are experts on alcoholic drinks we do not want them, send them back and stop the project. I would have thought that you might want to thank the Sudanese Government for curing 2,000 British experts in Sudan of alcoholism.

Question: What about the arrest of [former Prime Minister] Dr as-Sadiq al-Mahdi? Will he be released or brought to trial? What is the true story? We have, of course, heard many stories, but we have not yet heard a clear official version. May we hear it?

Answer: He was abroad when the Islamic shari'a was declared. He came back during the night of the feast of Al-Adha. He went straight to the people saying their prayers and delivered a sermon. His sermon was against the shari'a. I believe that his action was the start of a large-scale campaign of sedition, something which we definitely did not need. After World War II, the British engineered sedition under the pretext of setting up sectarian parties. We never had such things before.

So I said: Let us detain As-Sadiq for these reasons: First, to protect his life — because the people would not leave him alone; I know the Sudanese people — and, second, because he violated [the law] and did not mention anything else that might have prevented sedition. Furthermore, the people, all the people, must realize that under Islamic law, and as far as Numayri is concerned, no one is above the law.

Question: Will he be released without trial?

Answer: After we make sure that everything is finished. I consider him to be an agent of a foreign state. He gets money easily. He does not work, but spends money like someone who has no fear of poverty.

Question: On the question of the Sudanese opposition, is there a formula for rallying all the Sudanese people and ensuring their solidarity in defense of their country and in support of Islamic law?

Answer: I am very sorry to say that there is no such formula, because those living in London who consider themselves to be the opposition do not have a single believer among them. I know of one who started off as a communist and ended up as nothing. He ended up as a Libyan. There is another one who began by selling seats. He would sell his own people in the name of unity with Egypt. Now he works with another state and is trying to give the impression that he is supported by a very large party in Sudan. That is really quite strange. He gets money and publishes advertisements in English papers — a language he himself cannot write — at the rate of 6,000 or 7,000 pounds sterling per page. Despite this, he cannot bring himself to pay someone 100 pounds to write for him in proper English.

Question: Regarding the economic situation, decisions have been made in Sudan which will bring about austerity and an increase in prices, including oil prices. Sudan is, of course, a developing country with economic problems. Do you see an early end to the crisis? Are there any plans you would want to reassure the Sudanese people with?

Answer: As you know, the economic crisis is worldwide. If the entire world cannot resolve it, no one country can claim to be completely outside it. At present, there is inflation in all countries. Prices are high everywhere in the world, including the United States, Britain, and the Arab countries. We in Sudan have detailed development plans aimed at cutting the rate of inflation and ensuring self-sufficiency. We are all right in that respect, thank God. We have no difficulty in convincing the people that we are getting everything for them at reasonable prices.

## TUNISIA

### Libyan Request To Join Treaty 'Welcomed'

*LD191647 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba has welcomed the formal request made by the sister Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to join the Tunisian-Algerian Treaty of Fraternity and Accord, which was signed last week by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The president recommended holding the necessary meetings with the brother Algerians, Mauritanians, and Libyans to study this request in accordance with the provisions of the treaty, which must be adhered to in both letter and spirit. The president handed the foreign minister a message for the Moroccan monarch, King Hassan II. Caid Beji es-Sebsi left for Rabat this evening to carry out this mission.

## CONGO

### Sassou-Nguesso Leaves for UDEAC Summit

*AB191115 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Excerpt] The 19th summit of heads of state of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] begins in Bangui, the CAR capital, on Monday. The summit was prepared at two levels by experts and ministers of finance and economy. The main item on the agenda may be a review of the Union's activities since the 18th summit that was held in Yaounde in December 1982, and the admission of Equatorial Guinea into the Union. The People's Republic of Congo, a founding member of the UDEAC, which will host the 20th summit in 1984, will be represented by a delegation led by the head of state, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso. The head of state left Brazzaville this morning at 1100 and his plane should have landed in Bangui by now.

### Naval Shipyard Receives Workshop From PRC

*AB191810 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1215 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] Within the framework of cooperation between China and the Congo, there was a ceremony this morning at the Chavona naval shipyard for the handing over of new equipment to the shipyard.

Up to now, the shipyard built only ships with wooden decks. The new workshop now allows Chacona to build ships with metal decks. (Kiang Zing), the charge d'affaires of the Embassy of China in the Congo, who was the first to speak, defined the contribution and benefits of this new equipment.

[Begin (Kiang) recording] Chacona is now furnished with a new drydock, a new workshop, and new equipment. This transformation will enable it to develop its production, increase its profit margin, and better play its role in the development of the Congolese national economy. For these reasons, I want to address my hearty congratulations to the government and people of the Congo and to the comrades and friends present here. The People's Republic of Congo has enormous potential to boost its river and sea transport. Above all, we think that the Congo's river transport and its corresponding naval facilities could have a bright future, and that the development of this sector will have a direct impact on the Congolese economy. Economic and technical cooperation between Congo and China is rather long-lived. This explains the existence of a mutual understanding in this field between our two countries. This cooperation, which reflects the spirit of the South-South cooperation, will have bright prospects. [end recording]

Comrade Lazare Frederic Matanga, on behalf of the minister of transport and civil aviation, thanked the Chinese for the efforts so far deployed in the development of the naval shipyard.

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA

### Country Officially Admitted Into UDEAC

*AB191950 Paris AFP in French 1859 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Bangui, 19 Dec (AFP) — Equatorial Guinea was officially admitted into the Custom and Economic Union of Central Africa, UDEAC, on Monday and is therefore participating as a full member in the 19th summit of heads of state of the UDEAC which opened this afternoon in Bangui, CAR.

The document of admission of the former Spanish colony was signed at the UDEAC headquarters by Equatorial Guinean President Colonel Obiang Nguema Mbasogo and CAR President Andre Kolingba, who is also the current chairman of the UDEAC.

Presidents Sassou-Nguesso of Congo, Omar Bongo of Gabon, and Mr Eteki Mboumoua, Cameroonian minister in charge of missions at the Cameroonian president's office, as well as Chadian President Hissein Habre, who participated as an observer, countersigned the document.

According to President Kolingba, the membership of Equatorial Guinea is "an historic act anticipated by the people of Equatorial Guinea," which will enable that country to "break its barrier of isolation."

## ZAIRE

### Chadian Defense Minister, Delegation Visit

*AB191740 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1410 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Gbadolite, 19 Dec (AZAP) — Chadian Defense Minister Rotouang Yoma, who is currently on a working visit to Zaire, yesterday visited the Kato-Koli commando training center. He was accompanied by Secretary of State for National Defense and Territorial Security Lomponda wa Botende. During the visit, Major Jacques Baudouin, the officer in charge of the center, explained to the Chadian delegation the different stages of commando training at the center.

On Saturday evening, the Chadian delegation attended a dinner party organized in their honor at the Nzekele Hotel by the subregional commissioner. During the toast, the Chadian statesman paid tribute to leader Mobutu Sese Seko and the Zairian people who were the first to reply to the call of the Chadian people when they fell victim to external aggression.

The Chadian statesman also seized the opportunity provided him by his visit to Gbadolite to lay a wreath on the grave of the late Mama Mobutu. He also visited the MPR founding chairman's vast plantations.

## GHANA

### Commentary on Rawlings Visit to Ivory Coast

*AB191140 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, has paid a 1-day visit to the Ivory Coast for talks with President Houphouet-Boigny. Among the topics discussed was cocoa cultivation in the two countries. The priority apparently given to cocoa in their talks was to be expected in view of the position occupied by cocoa in the economies of the two countries. The cocoa industry in both Ghana and the Ivory Coast is plagued with the same problems — the bushfires of this year, and price fluctuations on the world market. On the latter point, it is encouraging that a new cooperation seems to be forthcoming from the Ivory Coast for achieving a stable remunerative world price. This is a far cry from the days in the 1980's when the Ivory Coast refused ratification of the international cocoa agreement meant to improve the situation for producer nations. Indeed, there is evidence of cooperation from the Ivory Coast in more ways than just the price problem. This is seen again in the visit of the Ivory Coast farmers delegation to Ghana last month. The visit, as well as that by the Ghanaian head of state, could strengthen (?international) cooperation so that problems of bushfires, smuggling, and the world price may be resolved.

In this connection, one can only stress the importance of the statement by Chairman Rawlings while in the Ivory Coast that there must be a common strategy by producer nations in their price negotiations with consumers. The problems of smuggling and control of bushfires can best be handled by the Ghana-Ivory Coast Commission for Cooperation, and it is encouraging to note that the two leaders agreed to strive for reconvening of the commission, which has not met since 1979. A very important aspect of the agreement is the acceptance of the right of the two countries to determine their political systems and that their choice of different systems should not [word indistinct] to disrupt cooperation between them. The Ivory Coast operates a one-party system, the single party being the PDCI or the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast. But it has all the trappings of the Western-style rule with a parliament or National Assembly, a speaker, and all that. No one in the Third World will criticize the Ivory Coast system just because it is a one-party state and certainly not the people of revolutionary Ghana, who have discovered that the multiparty system per se need not be democratic. Indeed, we have seen both in Ghana and elsewhere that a country may have a so-called multiparty democracy and yet end up having the worst kind of dictatorship known to mankind. The South African experience is there, just to mention one example.

We in Ghana are therefore pleased to hear that the Ivory Coast has promised that our political system or popular democracy will not make them stop cooperating with us. We are pleased further to note that while the Ivory Coast will continue to permit the presence of refugees on its soil, it will not allow them to use that land to subvert the stability of Ghana. This is as it should be, for it shows at last an appreciation of the fact that all the ex-colonies of the Third World are engaged in a search for national stability after discovering that the political institutions bequeathed to them at independence cannot ensure them that cohesion required for development. And this search for the suitable institutions of governance is the task of the people of each nation state alone. Thus, the mutual promise of noninterference in each other's internal politics is very reassuring indeed, since its fulfillment could create the peace of mind we need to carry on the transformation now in progress.

### Accra on 'Myth of Ivory Coast's Prosperity'

*AB192115 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Newsreel]

[Text] The Government of the Ivory Coast is making moves to get her external debts, which stand at $7 billion, rescheduled. Our political correspondent, David Anaglate, gives an assessment of this development:

The immediate task of the Ivory Coast authorities is to seek to delay payment due next year. Two meetings have been requested: one with government creditors in Paris and the other in London with commercial banks. Both meetings are to be held next week. Reports say the green light was given for the meetings only after President Houphouet-Boigny had dropped his opposition to the idea. He was understood to have been worried about the damage to Ivory Coast's reputation of prosperity in a region that is generally regarded as poor and deprived.

The decision must have been a very bitter one for the Ivory Coast leader, whose policy of an open door to Western investors and personnel along with liberal terms for repatriation of profits and wages of foreigners has been held out by the Western press as the only road to prosperity. Indeed, there are many Ghanaians who will tell you that we in Ghana just have to do exactly what Ivory Coast is doing and presto — we shall be as prosperous.

Now, the fact that Ivory Coast of all countries is in debt to the tune of $7 billion, which it cannot pay without serious dislocation to its economy, blows skywide the myth of Ivory Coast's prosperity. It shows that the laissez-faire open door economic approach is not a guarantee of development in Third World countries. In fact, some of us observers believe the myth of Ivory Coast's prosperity was artificially fostered by the West to prove that a capitalist free market way of development is superior to the planned economies being adopted in some other countries.

So the lesson should not be lost on Ghanaians that even Ivory Coast's economy is vulnerable to the vagaries of the world economic order, the bushfires, and the long drought which reduced the amount of cash crops produced for foreign exchange. Ghana has been in this tight situation much earlier, but unlike Ghana, Ivory Coast has not been guilty of the sheer human neglect of cocoa farms and other export sectors. That is what makes Ghana's plight worse and that is why the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] call for hard work and avoidance of waste in the public system takes on greater urgency.

## IVORY COAST

### Government Decides To Reschedule Foreign Debt

*AB191500 Paris AFP in French 1407 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Text] Abidjan, 18 Dec (AFP) — Abdoulaye Kone, Ivorian minister of finance and economy, announced in Abidjan on Saturday that the Government of the Republic of the Ivory Coast has decided to ask its creditors to reschedule its foreign debt. The minister stated that the international financial community had been informed of this decision by way of a telex message to each creditor.

According to a reliable banking source, debt servicing could reach 450 billion CFA francs in 1984. For 1983, the latest estimates by the Ministry of Finance and Economy put the debt at 410 billion CFA francs. A reliable source in Abidjan declared on Sunday that this figure could increase due to the exchange rate, especially in relation to the dollar.

According to Ivorian banking circles, the debt could increase by 80 to 100 billion CFA francs a year until at least 1986. This situation arose from the fact that the grace period for the payment of loans contracted since 1981 has ended. The source declared that new estimates were put forward by the IMF mission which just visited the Ivory Coast. It is possible that these pessimistic estimates were what forced the Ivorian Government to ask its creditors to reschedule its debts.

Abdoulaye Kone announced that an Ivorian delegation led by Minister of State Maurice Seri Gnoleba will meet with the country's creditors in London on 22 December.

## LIBERIA

### 20 Coupists To Face Military Trial 'This Week'

*AB191615 Paris AFP in French 1535 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Monrovia, 19 Dec (AFP) — According to an announcement on Monday by General Alfred Gayflor, chairman of the Special Military Tribunal, the trial of 20 persons — 12 of whom are soldiers — suspected of being involved in a plot against Liberian Head of State Samuel K. Doe will begin this week.

Among those accused are Colonel John Nuah, former head of logistics of the Liberian Army, Deputy Agriculture Minister Major Kalonka Luo, and the executive director of the Liberian Electricity Corporation, Harry Yuan.

### Report Denied, Labelled 'Incredible'

*AB191920 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] The special military tribunal has denied a *NEW LIBERIAN* newspaper report that the tribunal was to begin the trial of 15 alleged coup plotters today. The tribunal chairman, Major General Alfred Gayflor, described the *NEW LIBERIAN* report as false and incredible. Maj Gen Gayflor told the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] that the tribunal had made it clear that the trial of some of the alleged plotters would commence early this week but had not stated any specific date. The tribunal chairman later told news reporters that when the trial begins, the tribunal will not go into recess until the trial is over.

## NIGERIA

### Public Meetings Banned in Lagos for 14 Days

*AB191855 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] As from tomorrow, all public processions, rallies, and meetings will be banned in Lagos State. The ban will be in force explains that the action is part of a step to (?maintain) law and order in the state. The statement adds that that order will also help to ensure a peaceful Christmas and New Year celebration. The command has therefore called for the full cooperation of members of the public.

## SENEGAL

### 'Absolute Calm' Restored in Ziguinchor

*AB191345 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Following clashes yesterday morning between (?raiders) and the security forces, absolute calm now prevails in Ziguinchor, in Casamance District, where the people are going about their daily business. As usual, public services are functioning normally. The market has resumed its daily activities. The banabana — the street vendors — and the women selling essential commodities are going about their activities against a serene backdrop.

The security forces have the situation fully under control after routing the raiders, most of whom are now being held. Mopping-up operations are being conducted in the (?city) by an important detachment of the security forces. A few tanks and trucks carrying Mobile Intervention Gendarmarmes and LGI [expansion unknown] troops are patrolling the city and its suburbs, where calm has now been restored.

It has been reported that there is not now a single secessionist in the city or the surrounding area. As a result, the fear caused by the confrontation has given way to peace. Meanwhile, the city's various strategic points remain closely guarded by the security forces.

# UPPER VOLTA

## Chairman Sankara Addresses 'Support Marches'

### Ouagadougou Remarks

*AB181321 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] Students, lecturers, administrative personnel, and workers from Ouagadougou University pledged their support this morning to the revolution of 4 August 1983. They left the campus today at 0800, marched past the radio station, Bouin Nsiare, Zabdaga, the UN Square, the National General Secretariat of the Revolutionary Defense Committees [CDR] until their arrival at the Presidency of the Republic.

Three speeches were delivered at the Presidency of the Republic. First to speak was Comrade Sawadogo, the student representative, who lashed out against imperialism in his analysis of the international, African, and national situations, all of which are marked by the crisis caused by the world capitalist and imperialist system. Comrade Sawadogo then took stock of neocolonialism at the university.

Comrade Issa Tiendrebeogo, minister of higher education and scientific research, spoke next. Here is a short excerpt of his speech:

[Begin Tiendrebeogo recording] Comrade students, comrade lecturers, comrade workers: Your march today is an unprecedented event in the history of Upper Volta. [applause] Today, you have decided in full awareness and responsibility to stage this march in support of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and the general policy statement. This is very important, because to us, this means that the university has made a solemn pledge to stand by the people in their struggle for liberation. Today you have decided to join the people, to get involved in the people's democratic revolution. But the revolution is exacting. You do not become a revolutionary simply because you want to. You do not become a revolutionary simply because you shout that you are one. The true revolutionary is the one who has freely decided to make the people's interests his own. The revolutionary is the one who works at the side of the people on a daily basis. The revolutionary is the one who is prepared to make sacrifices, any kind of sacrifice, when the interests of the people are at stake. Comrades, what does this mean?

It means that if we want to get involved in the people's democratic revolution, at their side, we must get rid of certain traits that are incompatible with the people's democratic revolution. Such behavior includes the arrogance of certain people who belive that there is no salvation apart from them. This is not revolutionary behavior. [applause] Also, sometimes, certain individuals, or groups of individuals, take the liberty of making analyses without taking our objective reality into account. They only take their private interests into account, and eventually arrive at a subjective result with no bearing on or relation to the facts. As such, it is useless to the people's democratic revolution. [applause]

Comrade students, comrade workers: If we want our commitment to be considered serious and heartfelt, we must allow ourselves to be criticized. We must question ourselves. We must endeavor to break free as soon as possible and once and for all from those traits I have just described. [end recording]

Last to speak was Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR. He analyzed the situation of the petty bourgeoisie, the essential component of the students' movement. He then outlined the tasks and the necessities of the people's democratic revolution.

[Begin Sankara recording] The revolution is a series of needs and duties which call to us. This is why we must assume these duties. The revolution does not merely consist of holding rallies to make denunciations [applause]. Such a verbal revolution is too easy. In fact, the pseudo-revolution, the true revolution, the one implemented by those who only denounce pseudo-revolutionaries. [sentence as heard] We will soon part. But every day you must show a revolutionary attitude. The revolutionary is nonsectarian. Not being sectarian, he knows how to reach his friend; he knows how to reach his foe and argue with him.

Using all arguments, the revolutionary makes it a point to persuade those standing aloof from the revolution. This does not mean that you will use complacent arguments. Using criticism as a weapon, you must talk them into adopting revolutionary positions — those adopted by the Upper Voltan people. You must convince those standing aloof, far aloof, on the extreme right, as well as those on the extreme ...[crowd interrupts, shouting: Extreme left] No, alas! [shouts and cheers from the crowds] No, it is not the extreme left, because the revolutionary left is here. Don't mistake the left wing for leftism. [applause] Those who have whitewashed themselves with revolutionary colors will lose those colors after the first rain. [applause]

Comrades, I invite you to attract to your circle — the university — all those who have not yet adopted the proper stand. Those who have learned but one paragraph from Lenin's writings, those for whom the essential part of the revolution is its dogmatic aspect, those for whom only teaching concepts ar important; all these people are very dangerous.

It is very dangerous to entrust the revolution to those who stand far aloof from their people, those who are not courageous enough to take to the streets with the people, those who are not courageous enough to fight against reaction when reaction is dead set against the people. Well, we rely on you. We rely on you to do this. You will be called all sorts of names. But you must show concretely that those who come to an improved campus owe this to your action. [applause]

You must prove to those who are currently criticizing you that reaction will succeed if the revolution fails. If you refuse to help the revolution, you help reaction. To fight the revolution is to be a counterrevolutionary. At present, we cannot deny that the revolution is a fortress. We cannot deny that the Upper Voltan people are carrying out their revolution. But, unfortunately, there are some people who know the revolution only through reading books. [applause] I thank you. [end recording]

**Comments in Tiebele**

*AB191525 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] Apart from the support march by students in Ouagadougou, another was organized in Tiebele, in Nawouri Province. This latter demonstration was attended by Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara; Comrade Blaise Compaore, minister of state to the presidency; a Ghanaian delegation: Comrade Jean-Baptiste Boukari Lingani; and a delegation from an Upper Voltan border town. As the head of stated remarked in Tiebele: Anyone who fears Po should fear Tiebele as well, because the two are sister towns and, more importantly, strongholds of the Upper Voltan revolution. Luc Kourouma reports on the event from Tiebele:

An imposing meeting which brought together both young and old was held this afternoon in Tiebele in Nawouri Province. This meeting was honored by the presence of Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Revolutionary Council [CNR]. The closing address, which was brief but significant, was delivered by the comrade CNR chairman. In his remarks, the head of state declared that Tiebele is near Po, the stronghold of the revolution. Therefore, those who fear Po should fear Tiebele as well.

[Begin Sankara recording] Imperialism! [crowd shouts: Down with it!] Neocolonialism! [crowd shouts: Down with it!] The fatherland or death! [crowd repeats: The fatherland or death!] Thank you, comrades. I decided to attend this meeting here in Tiebele in order to salute and encourage you, because Tiebele is near Po, and the two form the strongholds of the people's democratic revolution of Upper Volta. [applause] Those who do not like the revolution fear Tiebele and Po. They have lost their respect thanks to you. [Passage indistinct] You must continue in this spirit. I have noted the work you have done, and am deeply satisfied. You must overcome nature. You must overcome the difficulties. [Passage indistinct] You have immense agricultural potential. Therefore, begin at once by making the revolutionary pledge to start work. This will ensure that from the onset of the first rains, Tiebele will become a veritable granary for Upper Volta. [applause] The revolution does not mean laziness. It means work. The revolution also means feeding the people. Well, you, the people of Tiebele, who are fortunate to possess rich land in a well-watered region, must get to work. [Passage indistinct]

Denounce all enemies of the revolution who enter your region. Denounce them! [applause] The revolution that does not fight its enemies is a dying revolution. Our revolution must not die.

One of our comrades just said that on (?30 August), the border [between Ghana and Upper Volta] ceased to exist. There is no longer any border [words indistinct]. Ghana and Upper Volta are engaged in the same struggle. We have the same enemies. Upper Volta's enemies are also Ghana's enemies. [applause] [Passage indistinct] Upper Volta has no right to sleep while Ghana suffers. [applause] Ghana has no right to sleep while Upper Volta is standing. [applause] From Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings to the last Ghanaian, they must mobilize themselves in order to support the people's democratic revolution. [applause] Similarly, we too must mobilize ourselves in order to support the Ghanaian revolution, as one revolution does not exclude others. Revolutions are but different links of the same chain. [end recording]

**Sankara Discusses 'Revolutionary Process'**

*AB161115 Luanda ANGOP in French 1618 GMT 15 Dec 83*

[Text] Ouagadougou, 15 Dec (ANGOP) — The consistency and spirit of perseverance shown by the Angolan revolution are most remarkable, and serve as a lesson for Upper Volta. These were the words of Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and president of Upper Volta.

In remarks to ANGOP, Capt Sankara declared that revolutionary Angola is consistent and persevering in its commitments, despite economic difficulties and the political situation.

The People's Republic of Angola, as we all see it, is under a daily threat of pressure from racist South Africa [words indistinct] imperialism, adding that it is remarkable for us revolutionaries to see that Angola does not give in to such pressure. Angola has not changed its position despite the intensification of these serious threats.

The Upper Voltan leader stated that while many Angolan comrades have fallen and many others will still die, Angola remains firm. Capt Sankara added: This is the most important lesson for us, because although the country faces numerous difficulties, neither the economy, the defense of the fatherland, social activities, health, nor education have been paralyzed.

While expressing Upper Volta's support for the Angolan revolution — which he described as fighting for a just cause — the chairman of the CNR pointed out that his country is prepared to demonstrate this support in concrete forms, and not merely in words. The Angolans should know that solidarity and militant support are not solely a function of geographical proximity. Nor is it dependent upon trade, economic relations, or existing interests, he said, stressing that it is an international duty for revolutionaries to support just revolutions, just causes.

Speaking about the situation in his country, Capt Sankara said that the process initiated on 4 August reflects the aspirations of the patriotic forces in Upper Volta. This process cannot be considered as an accident; it is rather the normal development of a process of social struggle, he said.

As to the circumstances which brought forth the changes, the chairman of the CNR declared that it was not prepared in isolation. He stated that it would have been a historical error for this process to be initiated by a single group of people, because no single group can decide the destiny of a people.

Capt Thomas Sankara affirmed that the Upper Voltan people felt humiliated following the manipulated coup of 17 May, which the imperialists used to install their servant, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, in power. One consequence of this action was to intensifiy Capt Sankara's awareness of the need to resolutely establish opposition. He stressed that the revolutionary process begun on 4 August is a combination of the aspirations of the country's patriotic, progressive, revolutionary, and democratic forces.

Capt Thomas Sankara described relations between Upper Volta and neighboring countries after 4 August as good. He did acknowledge, however, that there is some reserve on the part of their leaders. He added that this is due not only to their own regimes, but is rather due mostly to our just struggle and the nature of our orientation, which characterizes the loyalty of our masses.

Those who feel threatened are aware of this historical truth: Similar causes produce similar effects, whatever the circumstances. The Upper Voltan example is just, and this naturally worries many people, the Upper Voltan leader concluded.

## ANGOLA

### Deputy Foreign Minister Calls RSA Offer 'Farce'

*MB191504 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Text] The UN Security Council has complied with the Angolan request to meet after the resurgence of armed actions by South African forces in southern Angola, and it is already debating the problem.

Meanwhile, South Africa has presented a letter to this meeting of the Security Council that contains proposals on the withdrawal of its troops from Angolan territory — the Province of Cunene to be precise. These proposals were described yesterday afternoon by Venancio de Moura, the Angolan deputy foreign minister, as another farce of the South African stand, inasmuch as the forces of the racist Pretoria regime are currently extending their armed actions up to Huila Province.

The withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan territory is what we have been demanding for 2 years now, and the racists would not be doing the Angolan people a favor by abiding by the international legislation with regard to respect for the sovereignty of states, Comrade Venancio de Moura, our government's deputy foreign minister, said during an interview yesterday to Angolan National Radio. Comrade Venancio de Moura also said that we would not (?remain silent) until there was effective withdrawal of the South African forces from our terrority and the violation of Angolan territory and infiltration of puppet gangsters and mercenaries into our country ceased.

### Dos Santos on RSA, Missiles, Contact Group

*MB190933 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Interview given by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Sao Tome and Principe on 17 December 1983]

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has been in the city of Bissau since yesterday where he has come to participate in the fourth summit of the heads of state of the Portuguese-speaking African countries which begins today. During a brief refueling stop in Sao Tome and Principe, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos gave an interview to the local media in which he dealt, among other issues, with the present situation in the country, the danger the installation of missiles in South Africa poses for peace in the region, and the withdrawal of France from the Contact Group.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] I would first like to express my thanks for the welcome that you have given me as I once again set foot on the friendly land of Sao Tome and Principe. I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for the friendly and fraternal manner in which we were received by Comrade President Pinto da Costa and members of the party and government leadership, and I would like to convey a salutation to the people of Sao Tome and Principe on behalf of the Angolan people and their vanguard party, the MPLA-Labor Party. As you know, our country has been the victim of attacks for a number of years by the Army of racist South Africa and the armed gangs it organizes, trains, equips, [word indistinct], and transports into our country. There has been no significant change in the situation since my last stopover in Sao Tome and Principe. A part of our territory in Cunene Province continues to be occupied by the racist forces of South Africa. Our Armed Forces continue to exert great efforts in the military field to annihilate the UNITA armed gangs. We also continue to make efforts to repel the South African aggressive attacks.

Just 3 days ago, as you probably have heard through the Angolan and international press, violent battles took place between units of our regular Army and units of the South African Army. The South African Army, which was already in our territory, attempted to push farther north. Naturally, they were prevented from advancing and left a number of men on the battlefield.

The difficult military situation that we have been experiencing has naturally had a negative effect on our economic and social life. We have benefited from important political and diplomatic support from the international community. As you know, in the military field we have received internationalist aid from the Cuban people. Although the situation is difficult, it is under control. Over the past 4-5 months we have been conducting highly successful military operations against the UNITA armed gangs. We have confidence. We think that the situation will improve further and, bearing in mind the effects that have already been noted in our economy, we think that an improvement in the world economic and financial situation will also improve our economic and — to a certain extent — our social situation.

We have been independent since 1975, and there is no doubt that our people have continued to make enormous sacrifices, due to the aggressive war by South Africa and imperialism and because of the situation we inherited from colonialism. These sacrifices are also required because of the unprecedented economic and financial crisis that has affected the world over the past 2 years and that has aggravated the social situation of the underdeveloped countries. [end recording]

With regard to the installation of missiles in South Africa and the consequences of this for peace in the region and in the world, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said:

[Begin Dos Santos recording] There is no doubt that this attempt can only mean the transfer of the arms race, which today characterizes Europe and the American Continent, to our southern region and, to a larger extent, to our continent. We have a clear stand in this regard. We are against the arms race. We are for peace and the relaxation of the international situation. In view of this, we strongly condemn the attempt to deploy new long-range weapons either in southern Africa, in any other part of the African Continent, or the world. We know that imperialism is trying to deploy these weapons in southern Africa in order to maintain domination over the African peoples, that is, over those who are still under the colonial yoke or under the oppression of apartheid. I specifically refer to the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

Moreover, through this arms race, it is seeking to prevent the independent countries of southern Africa from realizing their programs of economic and social development. The continued arming of South Africa will further encourage the policy of destabilization applied against Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, and other southern African countries. Naturally, the path of destabilization will tend to prevent the governments of our countries from solving the serious economic and social problems which have been inherited from colonialism and which affect our peoples. On a long-term basis, this situation could also reduce the influence and importance of the parties which waged the national liberation struggle and which today lead the respective peoples on the path toward progress and socialism. Therefore, we are paying great attention to this problem. We not only condemn it, as I stated earlier. [Words indistinct] this situation. We are enlightening the militants and public opinion within our countries about the danger of the arms race policy, and we think that in doing so we will continue to both strengthen our stands as vanguard parties and the mobilization of the popular masses to attain the objectives that we have set in our programs. We have, therefore, established further relations and links between our parties and the respective governments and popular masses whose interests are defended by those parties and governments. [end recording]

The Angolan head of state then referred to the summit of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, which begins in the Guinean capital tomorrow:

[Begin Dos Santos recording] As always, we expect that the results will be positive, as in the cases of previous summits. We have identified ourselves with the common struggle for progress and the well-being of our respective peoples. We waged a struggle of national liberation against a common enemy, that is, Portuguese colonialism. We have cemented traditional friendship and solidarity, and officials and leaders have established personal relationships. In this phase of national reconstruction, we are facing similar problems, although we have adopted the principles that guide us in our specific priorities. We have had similar experiences and the situation which exists enables our meeting to be always marked by success. At the international level, we are meeting regularly with regard to our stand on burning issues of our continent and international realities. In the field of economic cooperation we have, in fact, been creating the instruments so that — let us say — the trade exchanges and economic relations can be strengthened. So, this is a new development and all summits have made a step forward, and, therefore, we think that this summit will make also another step forward in the strengthening of our relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation. [end recording]

The last question put by the Sao Tome and Principe media to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos dealt with the French departure from the Contact Group.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] We have hailed the French decision in due course, just as we hailed the various statements made by a number of officials of the French Government, including President Mitterrand. We hailed it because at one stage in the life of the so-called Western Contact Group for Namibia we realized that it was in fact deviating from the mandate that it had — if I am not mistaken — undertaken on its own behalf in the framework of the UN Resolution 435. Some of the members of that Contact Group continue to try to introduce elements that are foreign to the UN Resolution 435 in order to delay, if not to prevent, Namibia's independence. We, therefore, think that this attitude by France in suspending its participation in the workings of the Contact Group can show the other member-countries the part to be followed, since all matters related to the application of UN Resolution 435 practically been discussed and completed. In the framework of the mandate given to the UN secretary general, what remains to be done is for South Africa to indicate the electoral system to be used during the transitional period and the date for the signing of a cease-fire agreement between the belligerent parties, that is, South Africa and SWAPO. Therefore, under the terms of UN Resolution 539 — if I am not mistaken — the UN secretary general must be informed by South Africa of its opinion on these two matters, that is, the choice of the electoral system and the date for the signing of the cease-fire agreement, which will mark the beginning of the implementation of UN Resolution 435. Therefore, the Contact Group has practically completed its mission and all it has to do now is — like all the UN member-states — express its continued and active support for the UN secretary general, so that UN Resolution 435 can be implemented as soon as possible and South Africa accepts [words indistinct]. [end recording]

## Air Defense Chief Addresses Course Graduates

*MB191052 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 18 Dec 83*

[Text] The second Air Force course ended in N'gage the day before yesterday with a ceremony presided over by (Alberto Correia Neto), chief of the General Staff of the People's Air Force of Angola Air Defense, on behalf of the commander general of that branch of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. The course, which began on 21 January 1981 at the National School of Military Aviation, was held together with the first part of another course for radio technicians and radar specialists and ended with the formation of a group of youngsters in the various branches of aviation. The course was administered by Angolan instructors and internationalists who gave lectures on nine subjects.

During the closing session of the course, the recently trained students expressed their desire to defend the Angolan territorial integrity and the gains already achieved by our people and to strengthen the ranks of the Air Force. The graduates also expressed their solidarity with the just struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa for total independence and condemned international imperialism for the continuing maneuvers which are designed to create of tension in various parts of the world.

Presiding over the ceremony, Major (Alberto Neto) stressed the importance of the second source of aviation, bearing in mind the present situation facing the country, which is characterized by South Africa aggressions and by cowardly attacks by the notorious UNITA. After describing the event as a victory for the Angolan people, Maj (Alberto Neto) accused South Africa of giving military, financial, and logistical support to the UNITA

gangs and appealed to the graduates to make efforts to strengthen our defensive capacity.

### Cooperation Agreement Signed With Tanzania

*MB171251 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] At the end of the working sessions of the Angolan-Tanzanian Joint Commission, the two parties decided to strengthen and develop trade between themselves, particularly with regard to the purchase and sale of industrial articles, food, and agricultural commodities. The Angolan-Tanzanian Joint Commission also decided that scientific, economic, technical, and cultural cooperation must be implemented in 1984.

Accordingly, the People's Republic of Angola will export to Tanzania animal fodder, salt, oil-bearing seeds, leather, marble, wax, paint, and varnish, as well as rubber, cement, petroleum, and coffee, among other products. Tanzania will export meat, sisal, textiles, insecticides, chemical products, wood and its byproducts, vehicle spare parts, paper, and tea, among other products.

In order to implement this protocol, which was signed in Luanda the day before yesterday by Angolan Foreign Trade Minister Ismael Martins and Tanzanian Foreign Trade Minister Mustafa Nyanganyi, the banks of both countries must apply the present payment mechanisms with regard to the exchange of goods that have been established in the agreement. In order to guarantee the success of the agreement the participants to the meeting recommended that a different mechanism for the exchange of goods between the two countries be created, since the present one is not running efficiently.

In the cultural field, the Angolan-Tanzanian Joint Commission decided that the People's Republic of Angola should send three experts in archaeology, music, and conservation of national culture to Tanzania during the first 3 months of next year to exchange views with Tanzanian officials concerned. In the same field, Tanzania will send a group of traditional dancers to our country in response to the tour that an Angolan group will make to that country. The protocol also includes exchange of experiences and information in the field of national languages of the two countries, the possibility of Angolan personnel being trained in this sector, and the strengthening of the exchange of documents and publications concerning the administration and organization of libraries, among other things.

The head of the visiting delegation held talks with (Santana Andre Pitra Petrov), secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for production; and Maria Mambo Cafe, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for the economic and social area. Mustafa Nyanganyi visited a number of production units, including the Petrangol refinery in (Quinguela), laid a wreath at the tomb of the late President Agostinho Neto, and met with Pedro de Castro van Dunem, minister of energy and petroleum. The Tanzanian delegation left Luanda yesterday on its way home.

### Economic Agreements Signed With Brazil 16 Dec

*MB170737 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] The work of the second session of the Angolan-Brazilian Joint Commission ended in Luanda last night with the signing of economic agreements. The agreements, which cover the areas of telecommunications and air transport, were signed by Pedro de Castro van Dunem, Angolan energy and petroleum minister, and Cesar Cals, Brazilian mines and energy minister, who headed the respective delegations to the talks.

On the occasion, the Angolan energy and petroleum minister pointed out the present cooperation between Angola and Brazil, stressing that such cooperation helps in the development of our country. He said that, although they have been held in a particularly difficult moment for the People's Republic of Angola, at a time when the racist South African troops have been conducting yet another tactical deployment against our country, the talks have been a success.

In reply, the Brazilian mines and energy minister said that he expects that cooperation between the two countries will not be restricted to the speeches that have been exchanged, but rather that it will be implemented in a practical manner and for the benefit of Angola and Brazil. Cesar Cals described the talks as fruitful and said that in his opinion they will promote a deeper economic relationship between the two countries.

## COMOROS

### French Cooperation Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit

*AB171428 Paris AFP in English 1035 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] Moroni, Dec 17 (AFP) — French Foreign Cooperation and Development Minister Christian Nucci arrived here today for an official four-day visit to the Comoros.

During his stay he is to review cooperation agreements between France and the archipelago.

Other matters to be raised include the status of the Isle of Mayotte, Comoran Foreign Minister Said Kafe said.

The Comoran Government claims sovereignty over Mayotte, whose population has refused integration and opted to remain French.

## LESOTHO

### RSA-Based Mercenary Attack, Coup Plot Uncovered

#### Government Appeals to RSA

*MB191702 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] A government spokesman announced today that the Lesotho Government has sent a message to the South African Government informing the South African authorities that the

Government of Lesotho has received confirmed information that an all-out attack on Lesotho with the aim of replacing the legitimate Government of Lesotho is imminent. The Lesotho Government, in the telex message, further states that it has further been established that the attack shall be conducted by mercenaries with the instructions of a foreign power. The Lesotho Government has told South Africa that the planning of the attack is being carried out in the Republic of South Africa. Because of the confirmation of this allegation and the seriousness of this situation, the Lesotho Government has simultaneously notified other friendly governments. The Lesotho Government has asked South Africa to do its best to nip this movement in the bud, and it is hoped that South Africa will look at this situation in a more serious light and do its best in the light of these circumstances.

### Minister Cited on Investigation

*MB201020 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0935 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 20, SAPA — Lesotho is prepared to give South Africa all the information it needs to prevent a coup which, it has alleged, is planned against it by mercenaries based in South Africa, the minister of information, Mr Desmond Sixishe, said today.

Mr Sixishe, reached by telephone at his Maseru home, said he was aware of no response so far to an urgent message Lesotho had sent yesterday to the Foreign Ministry in Pretoria about the coup plans uncovered by Lesotho secret agents.

However, he was confident South Africa would answer today. "And as soon as they ask us for information, we will cooperate as much as possible and give them all the information necessary for an investigation."

Mr Sixishe said the information would name the foreign power involved in the alleged coup and pinpoint where in South Africa the supposed mercenaries were based. He would not comment on the type or strength of the mercenaries' military backup.

Mr Sixishe said the investigation that led to the discovery of the coup plans "was thorough and our sources were impeccable." He declined to elaborate on the plans.

He hoped South Africa realised the urgency of the information and Lesotho expected Pretoria to "prevent the use of South Africa as a springboard" for a coup attempt.

### Forces Placed on Alert

*MB201240 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] The commissioner of police, Major General R.S. Matela, sayu members of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force [LPF] and of the police force have been placed on full alert following Lesotho intelligence reports of a planned invasion of Lesotho during the festive season. He said members of both the LPF and the police force who were on leave have all been recalled. Maj Gen Matela has warned both citizens of Lesotho and foreigners to avoid getting involved in subversive activities. He said he had received anonymous letters of threats and insults which instead of scaring him and the defense forces has made them more brave.

## MAURITIUS

### Commercial Agreement Signed With Madagascar

*MB170831 Port Louis Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 17 Dec 83*

[Text] The first regional commercial agreement between Mauritius and Madagascar has been signed. It has laid the basis for more regional exchanges. This is the main outcome of the mission of the minister of finance, Mr Seetanah Lutchmeenaraidoo, to the Malagasy Republic. Mr Lutchmeenaraidoo, who returned to Mauritius yesterday pointed out that exchanges between Third World countries could not be done under the present international monetary system, so the need arises to find a new system under which exchanges would be made possible without involving the transfer of currency. If such a system could be found, said the minister of finance, exchanges would be increased fivefold between Mauritius and Madagascar in the next 2 years.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Machel Says Talks With RSA Begin in Swaziland

*LD201021 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] A dispatch from the Portuguese news agency ANOP datelined Bissau says Mozambique and South Africa are holding official talks right at this moment. Mozambique began official talks with South Africa in Swaziland today. This was disclosed by President Samora Machel at a meeting with Portuguese journalists. These talks are essential if a modus vivendi with South Africa is to be found, Samora Machel said. One cannot choose one's neighbors, Machel went on. They are a nuisance to us and we are a nuisance to them, he said. And the Mozambique president added: Yesterday I received a long telex from the United States, and since my visit to the West I have received several envoys from the West, including Portugal, bringing messages from South Africa.

### Further on Talks

*LD201314 Lisbon in Portuguese to Africa 1200 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Excerpts] At a meeting with Portuguese journalists in Bissau today, President Samora Machel of Mozambique said that the People's Republic of Mozambique today started official talks with South Africa in Swaziland. The nonestablishment of bases harboring combatants in either country and the finding of a way capable of leading to establishment of trade relations between the two countries is expected to be agreed upon during the talks, Samora Machel said. He concluded by saying: Let no one attack anybody. The Mozambique president also said that the United States is already informed of the talks.

### Umtata Reports Release of Some Soviet Geologists

*MB191645 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Some of the Soviet geologists kidnapped in Mozambique have been released. That is according to the Soviet Embassy in the capital, Maputo. A spokesperson says some of the 24 geologists have been rescued by Mozambican forces. The 24 were kidnapped by the Mozambican National Resistance Movement [MNR] guerrillas in August. The spokesperson says the freed geologists were in, what he termed, a very grave condition, because of the inhumane conditions in which they were held. The MNR forces are fighting the Frelimo government. They are alleged to be backed by South Africa.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Pik Botha Reacts to Rejection of Withdrawal Offer

*MB191526 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says that the South African offer to withdraw certain forces from the operational area at the end of January still stands, in spite of its rejection by Angola and SWAPO. However, Mr Botha told our political staff in Pretoria that the offer would not remain valid for many more weeks.

Mr Botha said it had been easy for South Africa to make the offer. If Angola desired peace, and if preparations had to be made for an internationally acceptable settlement in South-West Africa, the South African offer would remain valid, on condition that it was not exploited to the detriment of the people of South-West Africa.

Today Mr Botha said in an interview published in the pro-governmental *AFRIKAANS TRANSVALER* newspaper that the rejection showed that the ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in Luanda did not desire peace.

"It is clear to me now that the MPLA regime is incapable of making its own decisions. It is completely controlled by and prescribed to by Russia and Cuba," Mr Botha said.

South Africa would decide its next step when it had studied the rejection statements by Angola and SWAPO, he added.

Meanwhile a military spokesman here refused to comment on an Angolan news agency report today that South African aircraft had bombed a village in the Province of Cuando Cubango, southeast Angola, on Sunday.

An earlier statement on Angolan allegations of a raid on Saturday was equally applicable, the spokesman said.

The ANGOP agency said that on Sunday Mirage and Buccaneer aircraft had bombed the village of Caiundo, killing dozens of civilians and destroying the hospital and school.

On Saturday, ANGOP said, 17 Mirages had bombed Angolan military positions near Mulondo, in Huila province, 300 kilometres (190 miles) north of the border with Namibia.

A military spokesman here who was asked about the first reported raid said there was "no point in reacting to repetitive allegations."

### AFP Details Botha Criticism

*NC191913 Paris AFP in English 1810 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 19 (AFP) — South African Foreign Minister Roelof 'Pik' Botha today strongly attacked Angola's rejection of his offer to curb military operations in the Namibian conflict, as the United Nations Security Council began debating Luanda's complaint about South Africa's presence on its territory.

The war of words coincided with renewed Angolan allegations that South African bombers had attacked troops and civilians in southern Angola, killing dozens of people.

South Africa last week offered to suspend for a month its operations of "hot pursuit" into southern Angola of guerrillas of the Namibian Nationalist Southwest Afri..a People's Organisation (SWAPO), provided that Luanda, SWAPO, or the Cubans based in Angola took advantage of the truce.

The offer was made to facilitate the achievement of Namibian independence from South Africa, Pretoria said, but it was rejected by both Angola and SWAPO. Angola said it would only negotiate after South African troops were withdrawn from its southern provinces.

### SADF Spokesman Rebuffs Angola Bombing Charge

*MB200838 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] A spokesman for the South African Defense Force [SADF] says there is no point in reacting to repetitive allegations which have been bandied about in recent years by a variety of people and organizations. He was reacting to the latest Angolan claims that South African planes had bombed a southern Angolan town for 8 hours on Sunday, killing dozens of civilians and destroying a school and a hospital.

The official Angolan news agency, ANGOP, said the town of Caiundo in in Cuando Cubango Province had been the main target. The SADF said it was known that the MPLA government was under considerable pressure from the resistance movement, UNITA. Instead of admitting its inability to cope with the situation, Angola resorted to the hackneyed tactic of blaming South Africa for its internal policies.

The defense spokesman reiterated that SADF's only presence in southern Angola was in hot pursuit operations against SWAPO terrorists. He added that it is our policy to search out and destroy them wherever they may be.

### Foreign Ministry Responds to Lesotho Charges

*MB192030 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2028 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 19, SAPA — South Africa was treating with urgency allegations by Lesotho that a coup of the mountain kingdom had been planned in the republic, a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Information said tonight. Foreign Affairs had contacted the South African security services which said it was willing to cooperate with Lesotho intelligence "in instituting the necessary investigation as a matter of urgency". The statement said the security services had no knowledge of the allegations, but would be "grateful if the Lesotho intelligence service could be requested to provide the South African security services with the full details upon which these allegations are based".

The Lesotho information minister, Mr Desmond Sixishe, said earlier today that mercenaries based in South Africa and working under the instructions of an unamed foreign power planned to overthrow the government of Chief Leabua Jonathan before Christmas Day. Maseru made a further claim that it suspected the South African Government might be behind the plot. Relations between Lesotho and South Africa have been strained for some time.

Apparently, South Africa was concerned it received a plea from Maseru to halt the coup after details of the allegations had been released to the media. "It will be appreciated that in the absence of comprehensive detail, the South African security services can hardly be expected to undertake the required investigation as the ministry's telegram was released to the media," the South African statement said. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs added that its announcement would be released to the press before a formal reply was made to the Lesotho Government.

### Pik Botha To Meet With Swazi Ministers

*MB200948 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 20 Dec 83 p 1*

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] The foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, and his top aides will hold discussions in Swaziland today with senior Swazi cabinet ministers on a wide range of issues, including, observers believe, the possibility of Swaziland hosting a meeting between South African and Mozambique.

Today's talks, the first between the two states since July, when a full Swazi delegation met Mr Botha in Pretoria, will almost certainly focus on the controversial "border adjustment" proposal and on South Africa's concern about African National Congress activities in Swaziland.

The "border adjustment" proposal involved the transfer of South African territory along the Swaziland border to Swaziland in return for Swaziland's acceptance of South African-born Swazis as its nationals.

Swaziland's claim to the territory was, however, strongly resisted by the administrations of KaNgwane and KwaZulu and the dispute has since been referred to the UMPFF Commission.

On the security front Swaziland's rulers have adopted an increasingly tough stand against ANC activists who were once said to regard Swaziland as a conduit between South Africa and Mozambique.

But last week an alleged ANC member, Mr Thembunkosi Ngcobo, accused of seven acts of sabotage including plans to place a bomb near the Maritzburg [as published] City Hall while the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, was there, told the court he had been instructed by an "ANC person in Swaziland."

Another possible item on the agenda could be Swaziland's role as a neutral venue for a predicted meeting between South Africa and Mozambique.

No details could be obtained officially on the agenda for today's talks. But Lisbon-based reports that Mr Botha would meet a top member of the Portuguese Cabinet in Swaziland were categorically dismissed.

## SWAZILAND

### Government Officials Hold Talks With Pik Botha

*MB201156 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Dec 83*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is holding talks in Swaziland today with officials of the Swazi Government. Our Pretoria news office reports that the talks will cover a variety of topics, including bilateral cooperation and security matters. Earlier this year a delegation from Swaziland held talks with Mr Botha in Pretoria.

### ANC Members Arrested in Matsapha Police Raid

*MB190939 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 19 Dec 83 p 1*

[By *OBSERVER* reporter]

[Excerpts] Police launched a predawn raid on the Matsapha Moben Flats on Saturday and arrested a number of people, including some members of the African National Congress.

The police, in camouflage uniforms and armed with automatic weapons, circled the entire compound while others went in and conducted a room to room search.

According to a police spokesman, this a normal raid which is conducted from time to time for the protection of the residents.

Some of the residents alleged that the police confiscated a large cache of arms in a certain block of flats.

When *THE OBSERVER* contacted the commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, at his house, he denied this and said there were

no arms found by the police and that this is a normal raid which happens every time, especially during long weekends.

## ZIMBABWE

### PTA Summit Opens; Mugabe Urges Cooperation

*MB191856 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Dec 83*

[Text] The second summit conference of the Preferential Trade Area, PTA, opened in Harare this afternoon. The summit is discussing and will make final decisions on the reports and recommendations drafted by the Council of Ministers at the weekend. The Council of Ministers agreed on a list of import and export commodities, with the aim of reducing tariff and nontariff barriers and offsetting [words indistinct].

Reading the chairman's report at the opening of the conference, the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, called on member-states to cooperate together to ensure the elimination of their dependence on developed countries. He told delegates that African economies have existed as separate entities, isolated from each other, but tied only to the economies of the metropolitan states.

Comrade Mugabe said their infrastructure is geared to the production and export of raw materials to developed countries. He said the PTA treaty aims at fostering, accelerating, and encouraging the economic and social development of member-states and improving living standards of their people. The prime minister reminded delegates that the time has passed for issuing declarations and pronouncements, adding that since the beginning of this year a new and even more difficult phase was entered — that of implementing decisions. Acknowledging that the PTA has not totally achieved its planned goals for this year, Comrade Mugabe appealed to member-countries to use the experience of 1983 as a lesson to do better in the coming year.